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NOCTURNAL REVELS:

OR, THE

HISTORY

OF

KING's-PLACE,

AND OTHER

MODERN NUNNERIES.

SECOND EDITION.

VOL. I.

NOCTURNAL REVELS:

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HISTORY

OF

KING'S-PLACE,

AND OTHER

MODERN NUNNERIES.

CONTAINING THEIR

MYSTERIES, DEVOTIONS, and SACRIFICES.

Comprising also, The

ANCIENT and PRESENT STATE of PROMISCUOUS

GALLANTRY:

WITH THE

PORTRAITS of the most CELEBRATED

DEMIREPS and COURTEZANS of this Period:

AS WELL AS

Sketches of their Professional and Occasional Adventures.

By a MONK of the ORDER of Sr. FRANCIS.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

THE SECOND EDITION, CORRECTED AND IMPROVED,

WITH A VARIETY OF ADDITIONS.

Il vero est, quod ego mihi puto valmarium,
Me reperisse, quo modo adolescenturos
Meretricum ingenia & mores possit noscere:
Mature ut cum cognorit, perpetuo oderit.

TER. EUN. ACT. 5. SC. 4.

LONDON:

Printed for M. GOADBY, Pater-noster-Row.

1779.

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Il vero eſt, quod ego mihi puto palmarium,
Me reperiſſe, quo modo adoleſcentulus
Meretricum ingenia & mores poſſit noſcere:
Mature ut cum cognorit, perpetuo oderit.

TER. EUN. Act 5. Sc. 4.

LONDON:

Printed for M. GOADBY, Pater-noſter-Row.

1779.

DEDICATION.

INSCRIBED, WITH PERMISSION,

BY THE

AUTHOR

TO

HIMSELF.

SIR,

AS there are few perſons with whom I have had a longer or cloſer intimacy than with yourſelf, permit me, from the perſonal knowledge I have of you,

you, and your many excellent qualities, to lay this *Bagatelle* at your feet. I am convinced of your capacity for enjoying all the Wit, Humour, and Pleaſantry, that theſe Volumes contain. Your brilliant and ſterling ſallies have often pleaſed and diverted me, as they are, without vanity, ſo congenial with my own; and perſuade me, that the flights of Fancy in the following pages will amuſe and entertain you.

SENSIBLE that you are very far from being a rigid Cynic, and that you can relax the brow of Severity,

in behalf of your risible muscles, I am induced to believe, if in any part you should fancy my descriptions too luxuriant, or my canvas rather overcharged with luscious images, that you will impute this fault, if it be one, to the warmth of imagination, the glow of juvenile fancy, and an impetuous desire to please.

Most of the Characters are taken from real life, with whom you are equally well acquainted as myself; they are, indeed, for the far greater part, truly original; nevertheless,

they are not ſo *outré*, but that they may be traced in either the purlieus of *St. James's*, *Covent-Garden*, or *Marybone*.

THIS little Work is not altogether devoted to excite the paſſions, or gratify a vicious curioſity. Many of the Memoirs, which are authentic, may ſerve as beacons to the innocent and unwary, to avoid the rocks and ſhoals of female treachery, as well as male artifice. There are ſome ſcenes that muſt inſpire us with horror at the diſtortions of complicated Vice, and make us be enamoured

moured with Virtue, if it were only for her own ſake.

THE treachery, perfidy, and ſtratagems of what are ſtiled LADY ABBESSES, are depicted in their genuine colours, and afford a melancholy but uſeful picture of the depravity of human nature, and to what lengths infamy can prevail even in a female breaſt.

UPON the whole, Sir, as I am almoſt perſuaded you will approve of this production with as much

partiality as myself, from your wonted prepoſſeſſion in my favour, I ſhall only add, that I am,

SIR,

A With the greateſt Cordiality,

Friendſhip, and Eſteem,

Your conſtant Admirer,

And very Humble Servant,

THE AUTHOR.

INTRODUCTION.

AS the Reader is acquainted in the Title-Page, that this performance is written by a MONK of the ORDER of St. FRANCIS, it may be neceſſary to illuſtrate this character, and give ſome account of MEDMENHAM PRIORY, the ſeat of wit, pleaſantry, anecdote, and gallantry; as this was the ſpot where theſe Memoirs were collected and penned, during a ſojournment of ſome weeks, in company with a ſett of the firſt-rate Genius's of this æra.

A CERTAIN Nobleman, who had made the tour of Europe, and viſited

moſt of the capital Cities upon the Continent, where he made judicious obſervations upon every intereſting object that preſented itſelf, particularly the different Religious Seminaries, founded, as it were, in direct contradiction to Nature and Reaſon; on his return to England, thought that a burleſque Inſtitution in the name of St. Francis, would mark the abſurdity of ſuch ſequeſtered Societies; and in lieu of the auſterities and abſtemiouſneſs there practiſed, ſubſtitute convivial gaiety, unreſtrained hilarity, and ſocial felicity.

HAVING communicated his idea to ſome Gentlemen of the ſame pleaſant turn of thinking as himſelf, they agreed to conſtruct a ſmall, but elegant building upon a little Iſland in the river Thames, not far from Hampton. It was divided

into

into a number of convenient apartments, which contained a library, muſic, inſtruments, &c. and cards and other games were admitted. The project being ſo far carried into execution, it was ſtiled MEDMENHAM PRIORY; and it was agreed to retire thither for a few weeks occaſionally in the Summer-ſeaſon, and there, like another *Sans Souci*, indulge, "and to their genius freely give," without either controul or reſtraint, except ſuch as are eſtabliſhed by good-manners and politeneſs, every one being allowed to amuſe himſelf, according to his own diſpoſition, either in reading, writing, play, or converſation. They, however, always meet in one general ſett at meals, where, for the improvement of mirth, pleaſantry, and gaiety, every member is allowed to introduce a Lady of a chearful, lively diſpoſition, to improve the general hilarity. Male viſitors are alſo

permitted, under ſome reſtrictions, the Maſter of the Ceremonies, upon this occaſion, being their merit, wit, and humour. There is no conſtraint with regard to the circulation of the glaſs, after ſome particular toaſts have been given: The Ladies, in the intervals of their repaſts, may make ſelect parties among themſelves, or entertain one another, or alone, with reading, muſick, tambour-work, &c.

The ſalt of theſe feſtivities is generally purely Attic, but no indelicacy or indecency is allowed to be intruded without a ſevere penalty; and a *jeu de mots* muſt not border too much upon a looſe double entendre to be received with applauſe.

The habit of the Order of St. Francis is indiſcriminately worn, as well by the

regular Monks, as the visitors male and female; and they are required to take an oath of secrecy, which, however, is rather a matter of form that is frequently dispensed with. The ceremony of admission is performed in a Chapel allotted for that purpose, upon the tolling of a bell, accompanied with solemn, plaintive music. The candidate, at his entrance, bows with reverence, and advancing in a slow pace towards a table, at the farther end of the Chapel, makes a profession of his principles, and requests admission within the rails, the appointed station of the original twelve members, arrayed in the clerical habit. After this ceremony is performed on one candidate, others advance, make the same professions, and lay their claim of admission. The established Monks having attentively heard the pretensions of the competitors, the Superior then proceeds to collect the

votes of the others, and the candidate who appears to have a majority in his favour, is pronounced duly elected; then his title and ſtation in the Society is determined.

NOTWITHSTANDING the rules of decency and decorum which are obſerved in this Society, in oppoſition to the females who take the veil in Foreign Seminaries, the Ladies are not compelled to make any vows of celibacy upon their admiſſion, any more than the Monks, the former conſidering themſelves as the lawful wives of the brethren, during their ſtay within the monaſtic walls, every Monk being religiouſly ſcrupulous not to infringe upon the nuptial alliance of any other brother.

THE Ladies in particular ſubſcribing to an oath of ſecrecy, and as it is their reciprocal

reciprocal intereſt to confine the knowledge of theſe rites to the Monaſtic walls, there has ſcarcely been a ſcandalous report on their account, as individuals, ſince the firſt inſtitution of the Order, which might otherwiſe have increaſed the number of Divorces at preſent ſo prevalent in this kingdom. That no Lady may be taken by ſurpriſe, either by her huſband or any other relation, they are admitted in maſks, and do not unmaſk till all the Brethren have paſſed them in review, that they may avoid, if they judge it expedient, meeting with an unwelcome acquaintance. In this caſe, no *eclairciſſement* is required from them; but they may retire without making any apology, or revealing themſelves to any but their temporary huſband.

Diſquisitions of an amorous and Platonic kind ſometimes are introduced, in

in which full liberty of ſpeech is allowed, within the preſcribed line of decorum. In caſe the topics ſhould unexpectedly become too warm and paſſionate, the uſe of fans is allowed, to prevent the appearance of the Ladies' bluſhes; and under theſe circumſtances, ſome females ſeize this opportunity for a temporary retreat with their paramours. The Monaſtery is not deſtitute of the aid of the Faculty, even of thoſe who profeſs the chirurgical as well as the obſtetric art; as the Ladies, in caſe they find it neceſſary, may make a temporary retreat from the world, and aſſiſt poſterity with reſpect to the riſing generation. The offspring of theſe connexions are ſtiled the Sons and Daughters of St. FRANCIS, and are appointed in due order officers and domeſtics in the Seminary, according to their different abilities, or by drawing lots.

Such is the general outline of the Laws, Customs, and Regulations of the Society of the Monks of St. Francis, many of whom have contributed, by their information, to the production of the following sheets.

NOCTURNAL REVELS:

OR, THE HISTORY

OF

MODERN NUNNERIES.

CHAP. I.

THIS æra of improvement and refinement in arts, sciences, taste, elegance, politeness, luxury, debauchery, and even vice, could not fail being particularly distinguished in the mode

NOCTURNAL REVELS:

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CHAP. I.

The Riſe and Progreſs of polite Gallantry: With a deſcriptive Account of the different Seminaries for amorous Recreations in the laſt Reign.

THIS æra of improvement and refinement in arts, ſciences, taſte, elegance, politeneſs, luxury, debauchery, and even vice, could not help being particularly diſtinguiſhed in the mode.

mode and ceremonies uſed in the devotions paid to the Cyprian Goddeſs.

Our forefathers were ſo unenlightened, ſo unpoliſhed, ſo intirely unacquainted with what is now called the *Ton*, that they thought it infamous in any man, let his ſtation have been ever ſo exalted, to keep a Miſtreſs; even the ſallies of Youth were by ſome thought unpardonable; and it was pronounced that a ſtate of perfect celibacy ſhould ever precede the matrimonial vow, which ſhould be moſt religiouſly obſerved on both ſides. Adultery was then thought one of the greateſt crimes that could be committed; and whenever a woman was found guilty of it, though claſſed amongſt the firſt Nobility, ſhe was ſhunned by her friends and relations, and baniſhed from Society. But theſe Gothic notions are now happily exploded, and true politeneſs, upon the

the moſt liberal principles of the *Sçavoir Vivre*, at length prevails. Like all other improvements, that in Gallantry gradually advanced, till it attained its preſent degree of perfection.

It is true, that in the reign of that witty, wicked monarch (as he was called) Charles II. ſome ſtrides were made towards cruſhing the barbarous notions which prevailed in the days of his predeceſſors; and he ſet an excellent example, in the choice and number of his Miſtreſſes, for his courtiers and ſubjects. But when that Monkiſh, bigotted Prince James (who, as Louis XIV. jocularly obſerved, had loſt three Kingdoms for a Maſs) came to the throne, all the progreſs that had been made in Gallantry was baniſhed from theſe realms; and ſoon after he himſelf was baniſhed.

When

When the phlegmatic William ſeized the ſcepter, he brandiſhed it with a Dutch miſanthropy, that made his Courtiers reſemble mourners at a funeral, and the Ladies ſeemed to be in the firſt coach. We will not credit ſome innuendoes thrown out even by his encomiaſt Biſhop Burnet; but it is certain that, in his reign, the Ladies were leſs regarded at St. James's than they had ever been before.

Upon the acceſſion of George the Firſt, the gloom was diſſipated; the Ladies reaſſumed their wonted power; gaiety and conviviality promoted a frequent intercourſe between the ſexes; no party was complete without Ladies, who at once gave a zeſt and a poliſh to converſation. Hence more private parties aroſe, when opportunity and importunity favoured the deſigns of the lover, whoſe

whose Mistress, with seeming reluctance, yielded to his solicitations. Intrigue began to wear a modish aspect, the Palace had stamped indulgence upon it, and Courtiers at least were compelled to follow the taste of the Drawing-room.

In the reign of George the Second, Gallantry was still more purified; it became a science, and was studied by those who would intrigue with dignity. The Women now had the leading power at St. James's; a Great Man's Mistress was more courted than the Prime Minister; and even the Dignitaries of the Church did not think it dishonoured either themselves or their profession, to solicit the smiles of a favourite Thais, who has often conferred Mitres as well as Titles.

The present reign, however, is that in

in which Gallantry has attained its ſummit, and Intrigue may now be pronounced in its zenith. Refinement is carried through every ſtage of life in this reſpect. The impotent, hobbling Peer who keeps half-a-dozen Miſtreſſes to ſupport his reputation, tho' in fact he has not the leaſt occaſion for one, politely winks at his Wife's amours. If, upon his return home in the morning, he meets his Cornuter upon the ſtairs, ſtill warm with her Ladyſhip's embraces, his hair *en papillote*, and all his dreſs denoting his recent ſituation; nay, perhaps half his night-cap hanging out of his pocket; the only *paſſe parole* is, *Bon jour*, *Monſieur*—*Bon jour*, *mi Lor*. Punctilios being thus happily preſerved, we never hear now of a duel, or a rencounter upon the ſcore of a Wife's infidelity;—but when ſuſpicions ariſe concerning a Wh—e's honour, then ſatisfac-

tion

tion muſt be demanded, or a man's honour will be called in queſtion who lets paſs unnoticed his Miſtreſs's inconſtancy.

Divorces were never ſo numerous as they are at preſent, as the uncommon harveſts of the Civilians and Lawyers can teſtify; but let it not be imagined that theſe are occaſioned by any real affection of either of the parties; for as they were linked together for intereſt or alliance, ſo are they diſunited, either for intereſt or caprice; or with the view of another marriage, after being completely ſurfeited with their preſent connexion.

From Kept-Miſtreſſes we ſhall deſcend a line lower, and conſider thoſe Fair-Ones who are to be obtained at a minute's warning, for a ſtipulated ſum. Before the modern inſtitution of Nunneries, the

the chief ſcene of action for promiſcuous amours lay in the vicinity of Covent-Garden. There are ſome Debauchees ſtill living, who muſt remember the Nocturnal Revels at Moll King's in the center of Covent-Garden market. This rendezvous was a general receptacle for Rakes and Proſtitutes of every rank. At that period there was a public gaming-table under the Piazza, called Lord Mordington's. To this aſſociation many families have owed their ruin. It was often the laſt reſource of a failing tradeſman, who repaired thither with the property of his creditors to make a puſh, when there were ſo many ſharpers to ſurround him, and ſo many artifices uſed to defraud him, that it was a miracle if he returned with a guinea in his pocket. From this gambling ſett many a broken gameſter has repaired to Moll King's to ſnore out the remainder

of

of the night, for want of a ſhilling to obtain a lodging. If he ſhould chance to have a watch or a pair of ſilver buckles remaining, whilſt he was paying his devotion to Morpheus, the nimble-handed gentry of either ſex were labouring in their vocation, and the unhappy victim to Fortune became the ſtill more unhappy victim to Mercury and his votaries. From this receptacle the ſon of Bacchus reeled home at day-break; the Buck took his doxy to a bagnio; and the Blood carried off his Moll in triumph in a chair, himſelf at the top of it, with a broken ſword, and a tattered ſhirt, eſcorted by link-boys, watchmen, and pick-pockets. There is a print at the ſhops that gives a very natural and juſt repreſentation of one of theſe ſcenes, which was actually taken from the life; it is ſo truly pictureſque and deſcriptive, that any one deſirous of forming a perfect

idea of ſuch a frolic, cannot avoid being furniſhed with it. As a proof of the reality of the deſcription, we ſhall add, that the parties were Captain OVERTON, a well-known Blood, at that time, about the Garden; and the Lady within, the celebrated POLL M—NT—G—E, who then lived in Spring-Gardens.

THIS Lady (who has been very ſucceſsful in life, and has ſince laid claim to a Coronet, through her connection with the late Lord C——t, with whom ſhe lived many years; as well during his retreat at Boulogne, for certain reaſons of finance, as ſince he returned to England) ſoon after her nocturnal adventure in Covent-Garden met with a whimſical accident going to Epſom-races in a phaeton. Another lady of the ſame immaculate character as Miſs M—NT—G—E was her companion; but

POLL,

Poll, who was always fond of flouriſhing a whip, was the driver. Unfortunately, by ſome accident ſhe was thrown off her ſeat, and falling upon the footboard, it partly gave way; when, being of a ponderous ſize, the horſes took fright, and Miſs M—— diſplayed, *a poſteriori*, a very uncommon and laughable ſpectacle, to the no ſmall amuſement of many ſcore ſpectators upon the road. The Ladies received no hurt, and recovered themſelves ſo well from their fright, that they were in ſufficient ſpirits to appear at the Booth, and lay their money with as much perſeverance as if they had not *broke down* upon the road; though every one of the Turf thought that the odds were greatly againſt riders of any kind, in ſuch a predicament.

When Moll King quitted her nocturnal rendezvous, ſhe retired to live

upon a very eaſy fortune, which ſhe had amaſſed by the follies, vices, and profligacy of the Age. She built a row of houſes on the road near Hampſtead, where ſhe reſided till her death.

About the ſame period, Mother Douglas, well known by the name of Mother Cole, and ſo finely caricatured in Foote's Minor, was in all her glory. Her houſe was calculated for the ſuperior rank of Debauchees. Princes and Peers frequented it, and ſhe fleeced them in proportion to their dignity. She had a piece of plate which ſhe conſtantly exhibited on her ſide-board, and which ſhe called Billy's bread-basket, it being a preſent from a certain Prince of that name who often viſited her. Women of the firſt rank came here frequently *incog.* the utmoſt ſecrecy being preſerved; and it frequently happened that

while my Lord was enjoying CHLOE in one room, in the adjacent apartment her Ladyſhip was cornuting her *caro ſpoſo* with a pair of the largeſt antlers ſhe could procure. Demi reps of an inferior claſs alſo reſorted hither. The celebrated CAMPIONI and PEG WOFFINGTON have often ſacrificed at the altar of Venus in this chapel; and it is ſaid with ſome degree of authority, that it was owing to the detection of an intrigue between the laſt Lady and SIR HANBURY WILL—MS, that little DAVY eſcaped from being nooſed in the connubial knot with PEGGY.

AT the ſame time, there were ſeveral other retreats round the Garden of inferior note. MRS. GOULD's ſtood foremoſt in the liſt, after Mother DOUGLAS's. This Lady plumed herſelf much upon being the gentlewoman: She deſpiſed

every woman that ſwore or talked indecently; nor would ſhe ſuffer any female who was addicted to intoxication to enter her doors. Her cuſtomers chiefly conſiſted of rich Citizens, who frequently made a trip hither in their boots on a Saturday night, and remained here (*upon their nominal country-tour*) till Monday morning. Theſe friends ſhe accommodated in the beſt manner ſhe was able; her liquors were good, her attendants civil, and her beds and furniture in a very elegant *guſto*. She had a *cher ami* in the perſon of a certain Notary Public of Jewiſh extraction, for whom ſhe entertained a very great *penchant*, on account of his *uncommon parts and great abilities*.

NEAR the ſame ſpot was another houſe of amorous recreation, kept by a Lady known by the name of HELL-FIRE

STANHOPE,

STANHOPE. But let it not be imagined, that any perſonal diſpoſition in her gave riſe to this title: It was owing to a former connexion which ſhe had with a gentleman who was called HEL-FIRE S——, on account of his having been Preſident of the HELL-FIRE CLUB. Mrs. STANHOPE paſſed for a woman of wit and pleaſantry; nor was ſhe entirely deſtitute of either, without deſcending to vulgariſms, which women in her line of life are too much addicted to. She generally had ſome of the beſt Pieces in the Garden at her houſe, and never entertained any whom ſhe judged improper to go into company. Some of the firſt-rate Thais's who afterwards figured in gay life, were trained in her ſeminary. She has retired from this *buſineſs* for ſome years; and having acquired a very eaſy fortune, ſhe lives ſnug, and enjoys herſelf and her *riding-maſter*.

CHAP. II.

Some Account of WEATHERBY'S. *The Kind of Aſſociates to be met with here. Sketch of* LUCY COOPER *and her Companions. Some Traits in the Character of Beau* TRACEY. *Outline of King* DERRICK. *Bon Mot of Dr.* SMOLLET. *The Pariſian Seraglios delineated. Firſt Inſtitution of Nunneries in England, by Mrs.* GOADBY.

WE ſhall begin this Chapter with an account of thoſe two famous or infamous places of nocturnal rendezvous known under the name of WEATHERBY'S and MARGERAM'S.

THE firſt of theſe receptacles for rakes and proſtitutes, highwaymen, pickpockets, gamblers and ſwindlers, was originally inſtituted about thirty

years

years ſince, by one WEATHERBY, as a ſubſtitute to MOLL KING's, ſome time after that retreat was ſhut up. No ſooner had WEATHERBY's plan got wind, than his houſe was reſorted to by great numbers of female votaries to Venus of all ranks and conditions, from the chaprioted Kept-Miſtreſs, down to the two-penny Bunter who plies under the Piazza. A capuchin was the only ſanction required: this was a ſufficient paſsport to this ſcene of riot and diſſipation. The unfortunate ſtrumpet who had been ſtarving in a garret all day, whilſt ſhe had been waſhing her only and laſt ſhift, upon making her appearance here, might probably meet with a green-horn apprentice-boy, who would treat her with a mutton-chop and a pot of porter; and if his finances were in proper plight, he might be induced to tip her eighteen-pennyworth of punch, and per-

haps, after that, be deluded to a horſe-pond bagnio to paſs the remainder of the night.

At this mart of beauty and proſtitution, the late Lucy Cooper uſed often to make her appearance. Not that ſhe meant to diſpoſe of her charms at the market-price of the place. No, ſhe was not then influenced by neceſſity; ſhe was then kept in a voluptuous manner by the late Sir Orlando Br——n, an old Debauchee, who was ſo beſotted with Lucy's repartees (for that was the greateſt attraction ſhe poſſeſſed), that the dotard would have married her, had ſhe not been ſo generous as to refuſe his hand, that ſhe might not bring a ſcandal upon his family. However, he allowed her a very handſome maintenance, ſupported her in a very elegant houſe he furniſhed for her in Parliament-

ſtreet,

ſtreet, and kept a chariot for her, which would often be at WEATHERBY's door for twenty-four, and ſometimes eight-and-forty hours ſucceſſively. After this relation, the reader may be curious to know what could induce her to frequent ſuch a houſe of riot and debauchery, when ſhe might have been far more comfortable at her own *hotel*. But DISSIPATION was LUCY's motto: the old Baronet ſhe abhorred, and at WEATHERBY's ſhe could meet with PALMER the Player (ſince dead), BET WEYMS, ALEXANDER STEVENS, DERRICK, and ſome more choice Geniuſſes. Here has STEVENS often repeated thoſe Lectures upon Heads, which have ſince turned out ſo much to his emolument, but which he then thought were well diſpoſed of for a ſupper and a reckoning. LUCY was uſually Pay-miſtreſs-general, and

3

wit, frolic, and fun, circulated at her expence.

Upon the demiſe of the old Baronet, Lucy's affairs took a very different turn. No longer did ſhe give dinners to Beau Tracey and KING Derrick, who was then a very menial and neceſſitous SUBJECT. His Majeſty has often, in his hours of diſtreſs, counted the trees in the Park for a meal, unleſs he met with ſome friendly acquaintance who would take compaſſion on him, and aſk him home; otherwiſe he took the run of Lucy's or Charlotte Hayes's kitchen. This latter Lady was at that time in keeping with Tracey, one of the moſt diſſipated men of the age with regard to the Fair-Sex. He was about five feet nine inches high, of an Herculean form, with a remarkably agreeable countenance; and on account of the extrava-

gance

gance of his dreſs, he was juſtly entitled to the appellation of BEAU TRACEY. Abſtract him from women, and he was a man far above mediocrity, with regard to ſenſe and learning. He was a tolerable good ſcholar, had a very pretty library, and was ſo fond of reading, that whilſt he was under the hair-dreſſer's hands, he conſtantly peruſed ſome favourite author, remarking upon the occaſion, "That whilſt the outſide of his "head was embelliſhing, the interior re-"gion of it ſhould always be poliſh-"ing; or elſe the powdered fop could "be conſidered in no better predicament "than a barber's block." We wiſh the young men of the age, who affect being called Macaronies, would attend to this judicious remark of a man of profeſſed diſſipation and debauchery, and who deſtroyed himſelf by his vices, before he had attained his thirtieth year, though

he

he poſſeſſed an excellent conſtitution. But the preſent race of Macaronies *think* (if they can be allowed to *think*) of nothing but externals; and many of them have not ſo much expreſſion in their countenances as the barbers blocks that are exhibited in various parts of the Town.

DERRICK's poverty was at ſome times ſo great, that he had neither ſhoes nor ſtockings that were wearable. Being in this ſituation one day at Forreſt's Coffee-houſe, Charing-croſs, he retired ſeveral times to the Cloacinian Temple to coax his ſtockings, which wickedly diſplayed every few minutes ſuch conſpicuous holes, as put even the KING out of countenance. Doctor SMOLLET was preſent, and perceiving his embarraſſment, ſaid to him, "Why, DERRICK, "you are certainly deviliſhly plagued

"with

"with a looſeneſs, or elſe you would "not repair ſo often to the cabinet?" DERRICK thought to get rid of the obſervation by a joke, and, in expoſing his poverty, obtain a pair of good ſtockings, as there was no ſtranger in the room.—"Egad Doctor," ſaid he, "the "looſeneſs is in my heels, as you may "plainly perceive." "Faith DER-"RICK," ſaid SMOLLET, "I always "thought ſo, for your feet ſtink damnably." The misfortune was, the obſervation was but too true. However, the Doctor, to make him ſome reparation for the ſeverity of his jeſt, took him home to Chelſea, gave him a good dinner, and, upon his departure, ſlipt a guinea into his hand, to equip his legs and feet for next day.

WE have given theſe little ſketches of the outlines of the Aſſociates of LUCY.

COOPER

Cooper, and the other high flying Courtezans and their companions who frequented Weatherby's at the time it was in the zenith, in order with ſome hiſtorical propriety to purſue our narration. Soon after this it declined, and the diſturbances that nightly occurred, ſo much interrupted the neighbourhood, that the maſter of the houſe was indicted for a nuiſance; and he ſuffered the penalties of the law, not only by being debarred a licence, but by impriſonment and the pillory. Had a certain Premier then been in power, probably R——'s puniſhment would have been much ſoftened, by his influence; as he had the honour of marrying one of his Lordſhip's caſt-off ladies, who has turned out a very good wife.

Margeram's, a houſe almoſt directly oppoſite in the ſame ſtreet, was conducted

ducted nearly upon the ſame plan as WEATHERBY'S; but it generally ſerved as the *petite piece* of the drama of the evening; or rather, it ſtood nearly in the ſame predicament as formerly Vauxhall did to Ranelagh; that is, after the company were cloyed with the amuſements of one place, they reſorted to the other, and cloſed what they called the remainder of the evening. This rendezvous was of very ſhort duration, after the ſuppreſſion of the other, which has not ſince been imitated, but in a much inferior degree at the *Blakeney's Head* in *Bow-ſtreet*.

HAVING thus far gone through the riſe and progreſs of Intrigue, Gallantry, and Licentiouſneſs, in its various ſtages; we now approach the period when theſe Nocturnal Revels were put upon a more eligible

eligible and polite footing than they had hitherto been, which was by the inſtitution of Nunneries at the Weſt end of the town.

Mrs. Goadby firſt planned this inſtitution at her houſe in *Berwick-ſtreet, Sobo.* She had been upon a tour to France, and had been initiated at the *Serails* (Seraglios) upon the Boulevards at Paris. Theſe were two licenſed Hotels, at that time under the direction of *Meſdames Paris* and *Montigny*, two veteran Procureſſes, who were well acquainted with all the myſteries and arcana of their profeſſion. Under each of their roofs were aſſembled about a Score of the handſomeſt Proſtitutes in the purlieus of Paris: They were of all countries, and many religions; but they all united in one Doctrine, which might be called the Paphian Creed. It conſiſted but of few articles. The firſt was a moſt implicit faith in the Mother Abbeſs, whoſe decrees

crees were irrevocable, and her conduct pronounced infallible. The ſecond article was a juſt attention to the rites and ceremonies of the Cyprian Goddeſs; the ſtricteſt attention to pleaſe their admirers in all their whims, caprices and extravagancies, that their aſſiduities might anticipate their lovers wants, wiſhes and deſires; and laſtly, to avoid all exceſſes in drink, and the effuſions of ribaldry, that they might convey, at leaſt, the ideas of modeſty and decency, even amidſt their revels. Theſe, and a few more articles conſtituted their Creed; with this final one, that it was the greateſt Hereſy they could be guilty of, to conceal from the Mother Abbeſſes any preſents or pecuniary gratifications beyond the uſual ſtipulations of the *Serail*. Theſe ſtipulations were very moderate: A night of pleaſure with a Sultana, a good ſupper, and all expences, were cleared for a Louis; a

ſum

ſum here, that would ſcarce gratify a Lady for the loſs of her time, beſides chair-hire, ribbons, and the other decorations of the evening; not to mention ſupper, burnt Champaign, and the houſe.

THESE Devotees of Venus in the Pariſian *Serails*, uſually paſſed their hours after dinner, till the evening, in a large ſaloon; ſome playing upon the guittar, whilſt vocal performers were accompanying them; others were employed with needle or tambour-work. No liquors were allowed here, excepting orgeat, capillaire, and ſuch like innocent beverage; by which means their ſpirits were never exhilarated with wine, and the ſtricteſt decorum obſerved.

AN AVANTURIER DE DAMES might reſort hither before the Play or Opera, and, like the Grand Signior, drop his handker-

handkerchief to his favourite Sultana of the night. If ſhe took it up, it proved ſhe accepted of the engagement; and, according to the laws of the Seraglio, ſhe was to remain conſtant to her betrothed Enamorato for that night.

Upon Mrs. Goadby's return from France, ſhe immediately began to refine our amorous amuſements, and regulate them according to the Pariſian ſyſtem. She fitted up a houſe in an elegant ſtile; engaged ſome of the firſt-rate *filles de joye* in London; employed a Surgeon to examine them as to their health, and to admit none that could in this reſpect be pronounced doubtful. Having brought over a great quantity of French ſilks and laces, ſhe was enabled to equip her Thais's in the higheſt *guſto*; and for which ſhe took care to make a ſufficient charge: but in imitating the plan of the

French

French Seraglio, there were two circumſtances to which ſhe did not advert, the œconomy of the prices, and their abolition of liquors till ſupper-time. Mrs. Goadby's *Serail* was not a Seraglio for *les Bourgeois*; ſhe aimed at accommodating only people of rank and men of fortune, whoſe purſes dilated with their paſſions, to the extravagance of which ſhe always proportioned her demands. By theſe regular means, ſhe in a ſhort time amaſſed a conſiderable ſum of money, purchaſed into the Funds, and ſet the Worſhipful Bench of Juſtices at defiance, who having interrupted her in the purſuit of her lawful calling, ſhe has proved herſelf a woman of fortune, and of courſe a virtuous Lady of character and reputation.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

CHARLOTTE HAYES *the next Imitator of* MRS. GOADBY. *Her firſt ſetting-out in Life with* LUCY COOPER, *and* NANCY JONES. *Some Memoirs of theſe Females.* CHARLOTTE'S *Connexion with* TRACEY: *Her Manner of fleecing him. She is lodged in the* FLEET: *Her Acquaintance with a certain Count. Whimſical Anecdotes of him. A Bon Mot of* FOOTE. CHARLOTTE'S *Regulation of her Houſehold.*

MRS. GOADBY's uncommon ſucceſs in her new enterprize, ſoon induced many Ladies, who judged themſelves properly qualified, to imitate her plan, and, if poſſible, improve upon it. CHARLOTTE HAYES, a Lady well known for her addreſs in matters of intrigue, took

took the lead; and having hired and fitted up a houſe in KING'S-PLACE, PALL-MALL, entered upon it with great eclat a ſhort time after.

A SKETCH of the life of this Lady, will not, we believe, be unentertaining to our readers.

CHARLOTTE HAYES, LUCY COOPER, and NANCY JONES, ſtarted upon the Town at the ſame time from obſcurity, and on a ſudden ſhone in ſplendour at all the public places. A ſmall outline of LUCY's character has already been given: as to poor NANCY JONES, ſhe was only the meteor of an hour. From having been one of the prettieſt-faced Grizettes upon the Town, being ſeized with the ſmall-pox, this cruel diſorder ſo entirely diſtorted her features, and removed the ſmalleſt veſtige of beauty, that it was impoſ-

impoſſible to have recognized her. The conſequence muſt be evident to a female in her ſituation of life. As NANCY had not now the leaſt pretenſions to captivate; but, on the contrary, was rather diſguſting in her appearance; her old acquaintance deſerted her, the Bagnio-keepers no longer introduced her. Forced out of her lodging, deſtitute of clothes, (which had been converted into money for her preſent relief during her illneſs) from rolling in a gay, brilliant chariot, ſhe was compelled to trudge the ſtreet, in hopes of meeting with an inebriate Cit, or holiday 'Prentice, who might afford her a breakfaſt, or the miſerable repaſt of a few ſprats. In the courſe of ſuch a ſhocking career, ſhe ſoon contracted a certain diſorder, that qualified her for a patient in the Lock Hoſpital, where ſhe luckily ſoon paid the great debt of nature.

As to Lucy, after the death of her quondam friend, Sir Orlando, her affairs took a very diſagreeable turn. She had by intemperance and debauchery greatly injured her conſtitution; her perſon, which was at moſt but genteel, was now much changed, and even her vivacity failed her. Palmer, who occaſionally relieved her wants, died; and ſhe had not charms ſufficient to captivate a man of ſuch affluence as could ſupport her in the ſame degree of ſplendour, as ſhe had for ſome time lived. It is true, Fett——ace aſſiſted her as far as he was able; but his affairs were ſo much deranged, that he was obliged to make a retreat to the Continent, to avoid the impertinence of his creditors. Lucy, thus deſerted on all ſides, after having diſpoſed of her plate and furniture for a maintenance, ſoon found the way to the King's-Bench, where

where she remained till such time as she was relieved by an Act of Insolvency.

After her enlargement, Lucy found she had the world to begin again, at a time that, for a Female in her line of life, she should have made provision for the remainder of her days: Sh however, found friends to put her into a house the upper end of Bow-street, where she carried on business in the small-way for some time; but being emaciated by her irregularities or constant Nocturnal Revels, at the end of a few months she also yielded to the Grim Tyrant. Having thus dismissed Two of this celebrated Trio, we now come to the remaining Thais, who is more immediately the subject of this Chapter.

Charlotte, having made a very advantageous connexion with Beau Tra-

CEY, had him ſo much at her command, that ſhe could fleece him at will; and ſhe had taken the hint from the ſong, which about that time was addreſſed to BET WEYMS, and aſcribed to ALEXANDER STEVENS:

Dear Betſy, when you get a man,
Be ſure you fleece him all you can,
As I do every one.

AN Anecdote of BET WEYMS, which we think will not be diſagreeable to our Readers, we are aſſured is well authenticated. Every one who knew her is ſenſible that ſhe had an agreeable caſt in her eye, not diſſimilar to that of the preſent Mrs. Crawford (late Mrs. Barry); but there are few who were acquainted with the cauſe of *the dead letter* in her viſual faculties, which made her be nominated the *Wall-eyed Beauty*. She

really

really poſſeſſed but one *natural* eye, the other was *artificial*. JACK HARRISON, of the Roſe, then gentleman-porter at the Shakeſpeare, came to her one evening in a great hurry for SIR RICHARD ATKINS, juſt as he had quarrelled with FANNY MURRAY, which was uſually the caſe once a-week. BET WEYMS had been very much intoxicated over-night with LUCY COOPER at WEATHERBY'S, and ſhe had miſplaced her *artificial eye*, which ſhe conſtantly took out every night when ſhe went to bed and lay alone. HARRISON returned three times, and no *Eye* was to be found. She ſent to every *Oculiſt* within the Bills of Mortality, and no one was to be met with. At length the great *oratorical operator* Dr. TAYLOR arrived with *a fine aſſortment of eyes*, of all colours and complexions.—"Your ſervant, Ma'am! I am very ſorry

"for the accident.—Had I been appriz-
"ed of it, you ſhould have been furniſh-
"ed with eyes from head to foot in the
"twinkling of an eye;—but, as it is, I
"think—I have brought with me as
"pretty an *ocular aſſortment* as could be
"expected upon ſo ſhort a warning.—
"Try this, Madam, it will do to a ſhade.—
"a perfect twin rival, Madam, of your
"other.—Why, Ma'am, one would think
"that you had ſat for it. Lady Pent-
"weazle never had ſuch a *piercer*.—Ne-
"ver did a chicken-glove fit better.—I
"vow, Ma'am, I am almoſt in love
"with you myſelf; and if I was not mar-
"ried, I really could not reſiſt, for the
"*eye's in the ſoul, and the ſoul's in the eye.*
"Never was there a finer ſocket, or a
"happier arrangement."

THE ſequel of this *hiſtoriette* is, that ſhe arrived juſt as SIR RICHARD was paying

paying his bill, and when he had almoſt ſurmounted his reſentment to FANNY. However, BET's ſparkling eyes prevailed, and proved that TAYLOR was no *Botcher*.

—CHARLOTTE highly approved of the doctrine couched in the ſong above alluded to, and accordingly practiſed it upon every occaſion. TRACEY, we have already obſerved, was a very weak man with regard to women, though in other reſpects far from devoid of parts and underſtanding: ſo that though CHARLOTTE was notoriouſly unfaithful to him, he ſtill winked at it without upbraiding her. When ſhe had an inclination to enjoy the company of a favourite man, ſhe would take him to the Shakeſpeare or the Roſe, and regale him at the Beau's expence in the moſt ſumptuous manner; for he having very ſimply given her cre-

dit at thoſe houſes, often, when he thought there might be a ſcore of four or five pounds, there was one of thirty or forty. When CHARLOTTE wanted *extras*, ſhe had a very ingenious method of obtaining them. She would call upon BOB at his Chambers in the Temple, dreſſed to the greateſt advantage, and pretend to be in a violent hurry to go to the Play, or ſome other public diverſion; when having, by theſe artifices, well known to the Ladies of her caſt, influenced his paſſions, ſhe would not ſtay a moment, unleſs he would toſs up with her for a guinea each time. To this he readily yielded, for the ſake of her company. Whenever ſhe won, ſhe always took it; when ſhe loſt, ſhe did not pay. By this means, in about a quarter of an hour, ſhe would eaſe him of all his ready-money, then bounce away and laugh at him.

It must appear obvious to every one, that, by pursuing such a line of conduct, TRACEY might in time have squandered away the most ample fortune in England. Indeed, he greatly injured his own, though very considerable, and at his death, which happened a short time after, his affairs were much disordered.

CHARLOTTE ere this had broke with TRACEY, and she found it expedient to look out for some other admirer, if possible, as easily prey'd upon as he had been. But this was a difficult task; and after a variety of vicissitudes, we find her closely immured in the FLEET for debt. Whilst she remained here, she made a particular acquaintance, who has since figured away in gay life, particularly upon the Turf. He was at that time in the same predicament as CHARLOTTE, and was compelled to submit to the meanest offices to

get a livelihood. At length he obtained his liberty by the ſame means as his Dulcinea, and ſoon fulfilled the adage, that "Throw an *Iriſhman* into the "Thames at London-Bridge, naked at "low water, and he will come up at "Weſtminſter-Bridge, at high water, "with a laced coat and a ſword." The Count had not been releaſed from priſon many days, before he appeared at the Tennis-court, and ſome of the polite coffee-houſes at the Weſt end of the Town, dreſſed in the manner above deſcribed. In a ſhort time, by dint of aſſiduity, we will not ſay *legerdemain*, he got into an elegant houſe in the New-Buildings, and abſolutely wore gold buckles in his ſhoes.—This circumſtance is mentioned not ſo much on account of the Count's extravagance, but to diſplay his ingenuity, and at the ſame time his conſtant eye to temporary reſources, with-

out displaying his poverty. The Count had a pair of Pinchbeck buckles, made exactly after the same pattern as his gold ones. When it was necessary that the latter should make an excursion to the Pawnbroker's, he substituted the Pinchbeck-ones, and it was almost impossible to distinguish the difference, unless taken off to search for the stamp. Thus, amongst his acquaintance being known to wear gold buckles, he was supposed always to wear them. However, he sometimes found it expedient to throw off the deception, and avow the imposition; but then, this he never did but to his advantage. When in company with some *Flats*, a bett was proposed by one of his colleagues, that the Count's buckles either were or were not gold; most generally the Pigeon would take the bett that they were metal. Upon

theſe occaſions he had both pairs about him, and had a gold one and a Pinchbeck one on at the ſame time. If they were to be produced gold, the proper one was firſt taken off; and whilſt that was examining, he ſubſtituted the other of the ſame metal from his pocket. By this ſtratagem, he has gained many hundreds, and he ſtill carries it on very ſucceſsfully.

Soon after he began to figure in this vortex, a ſum of money was won at the Bedford-Arms tavern of an American Officer, who refuſed paying it, inſinuating that he had been defrauded of it. The Count being in the meſs, was poſted at the Bedford Coffee-houſe, where ſome ſkirmiſhes happened, and the Count was, by the loſing party, brought before Sir JOHN FIELDING, to give an account

of

of his manner of living. In this ſituation SAM FOOTE befriended him, and brought him off. However, the Count thought himſelf greatly injured, and ſwore revenge againſt the American Officer, upon his return to Tom's Coffee-houſe with FOOTE. "By Jaſus," ſaid the Count, "he has ruined my "character, and I will commence an "action againſt him." "Poh, poh," ſaid FOOTE, "be quiet.—If he has ruined "your character, ſo much the better; "for it was a damn'd bad one, and the "ſooner it was deſtroyed, the more to "your advantage." The laugh againſt the poor Count, upon this occaſion, was intolerable; but he was obliged to laugh too, *againſt his conſcience*, as he was under obligations to the Wit; and had he reſented this ſally of humour, he would only have expoſed himſelf to ſome other

ſarcaſms

ſarcaſms that might have been ſtill more cutting.

WHILST the Count was thus labouring in the Polite Circles to fill his purſe by *the long ſhuffle*, CHARLOTTE was not idle at her Nunnery in KING'S PLACE. She took care to have the *choiceſt goods*, as ſhe called them, that could be had at market. In other words, her Nuns were of the firſt claſs, and ſhe gave them ſuch inſtructions as enabled them to pay their devotions with great purity and fervour to the Cyprian Goddeſs. Being initiated into all the myſteries of a Tally-woman, by the well-known profeſſor in this branch of the Hay-Market, Mrs. WARD, who had fleeced CHARLOTTE in this way of many hundreds; ſhe knew how to fix the price upon a gown, a ſaque, a trollopee, a watch, a pair of buckles, or any other trinket. She charged

charged them in proportion for their board, washing and lodging; and by keeping her Nuns constantly in her debt, she secured them; and when any one dared to elope, she was secured in a lock-up-house till the debt was paid, or she agreed to return to her duty, and to yield up all perquisites and presents to the Abbess, till such time as the sum, with interest, was fully liquidated. Having thus established her household, we shall, in the next chapter, communicate some anecdotes that will illustrate the mode of her conducting business in various different lines, besides the common routine of affairs.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

Some Account of CHARLOTTE'S *Friends and Cuſtomers. A curious Bill of Fare, with the different Allotments of her ſeveral Gueſts. An intruſive Viſitor, in the Perſon of* CAPTAIN TOPER, *who throws the whole Nunnery into the greateſt Confuſion. A whimſical and diſtreſsful Scene. The Sequel and Cataſtrophe.*

CHARLOTTE having thus regulated her houſehold for common cuſtomers; ſuch as debilitated Peers, who depended more upon art than nature, for any gratifications they might receive from female charms; for having worn out their regular paſſions, if paſſions can be called regular, they were obliged to have recourſe not only to the

whole

whole *Materia Medica*, but to every factitious aid of female invention; ſuch as impotent Aldermen, and rich Levites, who fancied that their amorous abilities were not in the leaſt decayed, but that they did not expand in their greateſt vigour within the civic walls, where their inceſſant thoughts of buſineſs, the riſe and fall of ſtocks, and the like, ſo ingroſſed, and as it were, riveted their attention by a kind of inſtinct, that they could not give any ſcope to ideas of a more liberal kind, or work up their imaginations to a ſufficient pitch of luxuriant frenzy, as zealouſly to pay their devotions to the Cyprian Goddeſs: Theſe CHARLOTTE conſidered as ſome of her choiceſt friends. And though on the eaſtern ſide of Temple-Bar they calculated the intereſt of a ſhilling for half an hour, when once they had emerged beyond that boundary, they forgot the value of gold,

gold, or, like the Citizen in the Play, parted with it very eaſily when it was light, and they could not pay it into their Banker's.—For theſe Enamoratos, who aimed at youth and beauty, ſhe had always a ſtock of Virgins in ſtore, who adminiſtered inexpreſſible delight by their veſtal embraces. A KITTY YOUNG, or a NANCY FEATHERS, being new faces to the fumbling Cits, they could eaſily be paſſed off for Veſtals, with a little ſkilful preparation; and theſe, with ſome other innocent *vargins*, have been played upon almoſt the whole Court of Aldermen by turns, and have alſo ſupplied the Stock-Exchange for ſeveral months with real immaculate maidenheads.

To ſee CHARLOTTE's bill of fare, upon theſe occaſions, would make a Cynic ſmile.

Sunday,

Sunday, January 9th.

A MAID for ALDERMAN DRY-BONES—NELL BLOSSOM, about nineteen, has not been in company these four days, and was prepared for a state of Vestalship last night. } 20 guin.

A BONA ROBA for LORD SPASM.—If the first-rate at St. Clement's should not easily be found,—BLACK MOLL from Hedge-Lane, if out of the Lock, and in good health—or barge-a---se WILSON, from Rupert-Street. } 5 guin.

Sir HARRY FLAGELLUM, exactly at nine; NELL HANDY from Bow-Street, or BET FLOURISH from Berners-Street, or Mrs. BIRCH herself from Chapel-Street. } 10 guin.

COLONEL

COLONEL TEARALL—a modeſt Woman.—Mrs. MITCHELL's Cook-maid being juſt come from the country, and a new face; or the Counteſs of LA FLEUR, from the Seven Dials.—*N. B.* Her Flaſh-Man, LA FLEUR, muſt dreſs her to the beſt advantage. } Paper at leaſt.

DOCTOR FRETTEXT, after church is over—delicate, with a very white, ſoft hand, pliant, and—affable. POLL NIMBLEWRIST, Oxford-market, or JENNY SPEEDYHAND, from May-fair. } 2 guin.

LADY LOVEIT, juſt come from Bath, much diſappointed in her amour with Lord ATALL; deſires to go upon ſure ground, and be well mounted this evening, before ſhe goes to the Ducheſs of BASTO's route.—Captain O'THUNDER, or SAWNEY RAWBONE. } 50 guin.

His

His Excellency Count Alto—a Woman of Faſhion, for *la bagatelle* only, for about an hour. Mrs. O'Smirk, juſt come from Dunkirk, or Miſs Graceful, from Paddington.	10 guin.
Lord Pyebald, to play a party at piquet, *patter les tetons*, and the like, without coming to any extremity but that of politeneſs and etiquette.---Mrs. Tredrille, from Chelſea.	5 guin.

This ſpecimen of Charlotte's bill of fare will give the Reader ſome idea of the manner of her conducting buſineſs; but, perhaps, he will be at a loſs to conjecture how ſhe could provide her cuſtomers with different apartments, ſufficient to accommodate them all at the ſame time, according to their various favourite amuſements. Upon an emergency,

gency, this might be done; and ſhe was ſo excellent a Directreſs and Superintendant of her houſehold, that all her friends were ſuited agreeable to their wants and their prices. The DOCTOR was mounted in the three-pair-of-ſtairs; Lady LOVEIT had the drawing-room, the ſopha, and the adjoining tent-bed; Alderman DRYBONES was crammed in the chintz bed-chamber, which, though ſmall, is elegant, and uſed only upon *veſtal* occaſions; Sir HARRY FLAGELLUM was whipped in the nurſery, where there were accommodations of every ſort to pleaſe him; Lord SPASM had the high French bed-room; the COLONEL took his chance in the parlour upon the ſettee; and the Count and Lord PYEBALD were entertained in the ſaloon of chaſtity and the Card-Room. Whilſt CHARLOTTE was preparing the bill of fare juſt given, ſhe was interrupted by the arri-

val

val of a certain young nobleman, whom ſhe had often entertained at her houſe, and to whom ſhe had given the moſt ample ſatisfaction. His Lordſhip entered with his uſual hilarity, and after calling for a bottle of champaigne, deſired CHARLOTTE's company to drink a glaſs; ſhe readily conſented, telling him, at the ſame time, that ſhe had a deal of buſineſs upon her hands, and hoped his Lordſhip would ſoon diſmiſs her. After drinking two or three *Conſtitutional Bumpers*, agreeable to the Charter of the Seminary, he told CHARLOTTE, he was come about a very important buſineſs, and in which ſhe muſt be the principal agent. Said he, "I was laſt night at "ARTHUR's, and having a run of ill-"luck, and being not a little vexed that "my rival ſhould be my ſucceſsful rival "as well at play as in bed, I offered "him

"him a thouſand guineas, that he "would once within this month be con- "fined with a certain faſhionable diſor- "der."

"WELL, my Lord," ſaid CHARLOTTE, "and how can I aſſiſt you in this buſi- "neſs?"

"WHY, I'll tell you," he replied; "to my certain knowledge, he has a "criminal intercourſe with my wife: by "your procuring me a Piece that is in "*proper order* for the purpoſe by to- "morrow night, I ſhall be enabled to "be completely revenged of my wife for "her infidelity, and of my rival for his "former good fortune."

"HEAVENS!" cried CHARLOTTE, who thought he wanted to inſult her, and

and call the credit of her houſe in queſtion —"you aſtoniſh me!—and I think you "uſe me very ill, my Lord, conſidering "the conſtant care I have always paid to "your Lordſhip's health and welfare.— "I know of no ſuch rotten cattle as you "talk of; they never come under my "roof, I aſſure your Lordſhip."

It was now time for his Lordſhip to come to a ſtill more particular explanation; and by way of convincing her of the truth of what he ſaid, and that he did not mean to inſult her, he took out his pocket-book, and preſented her with a thirty-pound bank note. This kind of advocacy had its uſual kind of prevalence: Charlotte now liſtened to him with attention, and promiſed to procure him an *object* ſuitable to his wiſhes; a happy conſummation enſued, and here we ſhall drop the curtain for the preſent.

In about a fortnight's time, Lord ——— diſappeared at Arthur's, and the injured huſband was convinced that the two-fold inoculation he had intended had taken the deſired effect. The next time the connubial rival appeared in public, his antagoniſt demanded his wager; and, in order to avoid a farther diſcuſſion of the affair, he immediately paid the money.

Thus we ſee in what a variety of ſervices Charlotte was obliged to engage; ſhe was neceſſitated to produce Virgins that long ſince had been deflowered; Females diſpoſed for gratifying every poſſible or imaginary caprice which Fleſh is heir to; Riding-maſters for Ladies, capable of giving the moſt ſenſible leſſons at almoſt a minute's warning; like Tatterſall, to procure cattle warranted ſound, under ſevere penalties;

—and,

—and, ſtill more extraordinary, cattle warranted unſound, under ſimilar penalties.

TOWARDS nine o'clock CHARLOTTE had got through moſt of the important buſineſs of the evening, and was preparing for a comfortable meal, having had no time to ſit down to a morſel all day, when one of the maids, in going for ſome porter, imprudently left the ſtreet-door open. Captain TOPER, coming reeling from the Tavern, made in conſequence an unexpected entry, and going up ſtairs, opened the drawing-room door, which Captain O'THUNDER had by a national miſtake forgot to bolt, and Lady LOVEIT was too much in a hurry to think of ſuch trifles. Captain TOPER diſcovered O'THUNDER and her Ladyſhip in amorous dalliance upon the ſopha, where ſhe was giving a looſe to

her fondeſt deſires, and much reſembled, in her own opinion, the *Venus de Medicis*; O'THUNDER was in his ſhirt and without breeches; the reader will readily ſupply any farther deſcription of their ſituation. Their aſtoniſhment and ſurprize was equal to their alarming diſtreſs, when TOPER, inſtead of retiring, upon finding his error, could not refrain from crying out with extaſy—"An Angel, by "Heavens!" whilſt he gazed upon her Ladyſhip's charms with rapture. Mr. O'THUNDER, tho' an *Iriſhman*, was ſo confounded and aſhamed, that he could not for ſome moments recollect himſelf, or know what to ſay, or how to act;—at length he exclaimed, "By Jaſus, "this is very rude and impartinent to "interrupt a *Gomman* and a Lady "in their private amuſements!" In ſaying this, he jumped from the ſopha, and taking TOPER by the collar, began to baſte

baſte him pretty luſtily. The Lady ſcreamed out; and the noiſe and uproar brought together as whimſical a groupe as ever was pictured upon canvas. Doctor FRET-TEXT came running, or rather tumbling down ſtairs, with his breeches unbuttoned, and his ſhirt hanging out; and POLL NIMBLEWRIST without her ſtays, and her duds hanging below her apron ſtring—Alderman DRYBONES appeared with a pot of pomatum in his hand, with a *torrent* of *liquid* ſnuff oozing from his noſe into his mouth.—Count ALTO expreſſed his ſurpriſe in ſaying, "*Diantre, quel fracas pour une maiſon ſi* "*bien reglée!*" Lord PYEBALD came with his cards in his hand, greatly mortified at having loſt his deal, occaſioned by the uproar, though he was playing for nothing.—Colonel TEARALL, with his modeſt Lady, appeared almoſt *in puris naturalibus*, much terrified at the

apprehenſions of fire--Lord SPASM ſhook like an aſpen-leaf, and ſtumbled, for want of vigour, upon Lady LOVEIT—As to poor CHARLOTTE, ſhe fell into fits, leſt the character of her houſe ſhould be called in queſtion, and Lady LOVEIT's reputation ſuffer the leaſt blemiſh from this riotous interruption.

IT was ſoon reſolved and agreed on by all parties, that Captain TOPER ſhould be expelled; and Capt. O'THUNDER undertook the taſk of diſciplinarian upon the occaſion; but no ſooner had TOPER reached the ſtreet, than, meeting with ſome of his inebriate companions, who had ſtaggered after him, they made an attack in form upon the defenceleſs chairs that ſtood unguarded in Pall-Mall; they plunged their ſwords into theſe uſeful leathern conveyances, and broke the glaſſes, which ſoon

called

called forth their maſters from an adjacent night-cellar, when a general engagementenſued. The Chairmen having armed themſelves with their poles, preſently brought the tremendous Captain TOPER to reaſon; and he, with his Corps, being levelled with the ground, they were ſecured and conveyed to the Roundhouſe to paſs the remainder of the night. Here we ſhall at preſent leave them to ſnore away their misfortunes, a prey to watchmen and conſtables of the night, in order to be a ſtill greater the next morning to a Trading-Juſtice, where we ſhall attend them, in order to bail them if they ſhould want it, or afford them any other aſſiſtance in our power.

CHAP. V.

Some curious Examinations before Juſtice STUBBLE, *with the Equity of his learned Deciſions. Captain* TOPER*'s Appearance before him for his Frolick the preceding Night. His Reception. Curious Depoſitions of his Accuſers.* STUBBLE*'s Attention to Buſineſs. Captain* TOPER *challenges* O'THUNDER, *who refuſes to accept it. The Conſequences.*

THE next day, about noon, Captain TOPER and his friends were conveyed before Juſtice STUBBLE, not far from the pariſh of St. James's. As this was *Saint Monday*, there was a very reſpectable appearance of Barbers, Publicans, Butchers and Informers; the laſt of whom came upon the moſt important buſineſs

buſineſs imaginable—that of *eating*.—Juſtice STUBBLE, with his uſual eloquence, learning and judgment, interrogated ſome of the delinquents in nearly the following manner:

JUSTICE. Well, Sir, (to RAZOR, the firſt), what have you got to ſay for yourſelf?

RAZOR. Pleaſe your Worſhip's Honour, I was only ſhaving a neighbour's wife, that ſhe might make a decent appearance at the Tabernacle, where ſhe never fails going every Sunday morning; and pleaſe you, this Act does not ſay there is any fine or penalty in ſhaving a Woman on the Lord's day.

JUST. I do not know that;—beſides, I don't know whether it was a Woman or a Man, or a *hairy Mophrodite*, and moſt *probablieſt* ſhe was a *hairy Mophrodite*,

or elſe ſhe would not have a Beard; and it is a great ſin, and a crime, and a ſhame to encourage ſuch Monſters. Pay the penalty this inſtant, and think yourſelf very well off that I don't ſend you to Bridewell.—Shaving *hairy Mophrodites* on the Lord's day!—Was there ever ſuch a thing known in a Chriſtian country!

JUST. Ay—Mr. BOUNCE—you keep a Tippling-houſe for diſorderly people of a Sunday, and in *Sarmon*-time! Can you deny it?

BOUNCE. Why, your Honour's noble Worſhip—there is nobody more careful than me of keeping my doors ſhut on the Sabbath;—but a poor man fell into a fit, and I thought it was charity to give him a little water; and That he did not drink, for it was flung in his face.

JUST. Very charitable, indeed! a pretty ſtory!—Strong water, you mean, to bung his eye with.—No no, that won't do.—What buſineſs had you with a man in a fit? Could not you mind your own concerns!—Charity begins at home.—I never give any thing away—no, not ſo much as a drop of water; but I know the law.—Pay the fine, and never think of aſſiſting people in fits, eſpecially on a Sunday.——You know it is contrary to law and juſtice, and every thing elſe.——Who is the next?—Oh! Mr. SURLOIN.—Well, Sir, what excuſe can you have?

SURLOIN. Why, pleaſe your Worſhip, many poor working men cannot get their money time enough to go to market on a Saturday night, and I think it no ſin or crime to prevent their ſtarving on a Sunday.

Just. Why, you Blockhead, do not you know that it is contrary to Act of Parliament to ſell meat on a Sunday? And if theſe poor people ſtarve, as you call it, on Sunday, they ſtarve according to law.—Pay the penalty.

These, and ſome other Delinquents for trifling offences, being thus ſummarily and judiciouſly diſmiſſed, the Captain and his friends were brought forward, and allowed to be ſeated: as Juſtice Stubble very ſhrewdly gueſſed that a pretty penny might be made of them, he thought this indulgence ſhould be allowed.

Just. Gemmen, I am ſorry to ſee Gemmen of your rank and appearance, and all that, upon ſuch an occaſion; but you know I muſt ſee juſtice done, and all that; whereof I muſt enter into

the merits of your demerits, and all that.

Captain Toper. A mere frolic, your Worſhip! ſuch a one as I dare ſay you've often been concerned in, when a young fellow.

Just. I don't know what you mean by a Frolic. Frolics may be attended with ſerious conſequences. I've known a Waiter thrown out of a two-pair-of-ſtairs window, and killed on the ſpot, and then the maſter of the houſe ordered to put him in the bill—and this was a Frolic. — You Chairmen there, what have you to alledge againſt theſe here Gemmen?

Omnes. By Jaſus, and plaſe your Honour——

Just.

Just. One at a time, or I cannot hear you.——[*To his Clerk*, Mind and keep an exact account of their Oaths.]

1ſt Chairman. 'Pon my Shoul, and my own Conſcience, the Captain and thoſe three other Gemmen beat, bruiſed and maimed our chairs in a moſt unmerciful manner; and when we came to our friends aſſiſtance, they drew their ſwords, and knocked us down and up, and down again, by main ſtrength. Look at my head, and by St. Patrick's own dear ſelf, you'll ſee how I have been uſed and abuſed, not at all at all.

Three other Chairmen of the ſame Country depoſed to the like effect, and with equal preciſion; one only adding, that the uproar was ſo great, that it terrified his wife, who lived in St. Giles's, who miſcarried of two Twins, who were likely to die and do well.

Captain

CAPTAIN TOPER and his friends being called upon to offer what they had to urge in their defence, ſaid, that as they had done the Chairman's property ſome little damage, they were willing to make any reaſonable ſatisfaction. This propoſal being agreed to by all parties, a Chair-maker was called in, and depoſed, that to the beſt of his judgment, the damage might amount to five or ſix-and-twenty ſhillings; but that he thought a guinea and a half would be a full compenſation.

THE Chairmen grumbled very much at this deciſion, and began to talk about loſs of time whilſt the chairs were mending; but no attention was paid to their murmuring; the Captain and his friends paid the money, and what other reaſonable demands were made upon them, and departed.

THE

The Justice now resumed his seat, saying, Well, Mr. Clerk, I think you have got a guinea and a half in hand; now, how many oaths have these Bog-trotters sworn? Upon which the Clerk replied, in an audible voice, *forty-eight*. Why then, resumed the Justice, at a shilling an oath, you have just sixteen shillings and sixpence to pay upon balance.

The Chairmen now were quite outrageous, and were for departing without settling this *just* account; but half a dozen Runners being in readiness to handcuff them and conduct them to Bridewell, and a Mittimus being ordered for their commitment, for insulting the Justice in his office, they found themselves under the necessity of submitting, and returned to their stands without a shilling among them.

The

THE Captain being returned to his lodgings, after cleaning and refreshing himself, began to reflect upon last night's adventure. He ruminated upon the groſſneſs of the inſult he had received from Captain O'THUNDER, and therefore, for the honor of his cloth, reſolved to call Mr. O'THUNDER to account in a Gentleman-like manner. He accordingly made inquiry where O'THUNDER lodged, and having found out his addreſs, wrote him a billet to the following purport.

"SIR,

"THE inſult I received from you laſt "night is of ſuch a nature, that, as a "Gentleman and a Soldier, I muſt inſiſt "upon immediate ſatisfaction. Your "time and place I expect by your anſwer."

To

To this Captan Toper received the following reply:

"Upon my Shoul now, this is a very "quare buſineſs you want to be after; "but it will not ſuit me at all at all,— "for I have killed my Man at Droghe- "da, and another at Lucas's; and ſo "you ſee as how, whether I kill you "or you kill me this time, I am fight- "ing with a halter about my neck; and "if I was to die upon the ſpot, I might "be hanged afterwards; which by the "way is very uncomfortable.—So my "dear Sir, you'll plaſe to excuſe me,

"Being in every thing elſe,

"Yours to command,

"Patrick O'Thunder."

This

THIS curious epiſtle of Captain O'THUNDER being publicly exhibited by Captain TOPER, PATRICK did not dare to ſhew his face in any Coffee-houſe afterwards; but what was ſtill worſe for poor O'THUNDER, Lady LOVEIT having heard of his cowardice, would not ſuffer him to meet her at the uſual Rendezvous; thinking, as he had declined defending his honor as well as her own, he was beneath her notice, notwithſtanding the vigorous and ſucceſsful efforts he had made to pleaſe her, when upon amorous duty; and ſhe immediately took SAWNEY RAWBONE into conſtant pay. What is become of poor PATRICK, is not generally known; but it is imagined he may be found on board the Juſtitia under another name.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

Some Account of Mrs. MITCHELL's *Method of conducting Buſineſs. Adventures of Miſs* P—LM—R *Her Acquaintance with Mrs.* MITCHELL. *An alarming Situation, followed by a moſt extraordinary Diſcovery. The agreeable Conſequences of this Affair to Miſs* PALMER.

WE ſhall now change the Scene, for the ſake of variety, and call in at Mrs. MITCHELL's next door. This Lady did not deal ſo much with Nobility, as ſhe did with Citizens, and ſometimes their wives. Her beſt Cuſtomers were to be ſerved with choice goods, as ſhe conſidered the reputation of her houſe depended upon this circumſtance. Accordingly ſhe conſtantly lay in wait for Young

Young Ladies, who, either diſguſted at the rigour of their parents, or from their ambition to ſhine in High Life, an inſatiable paſſion for dreſs, or from an irreparable *faux pas*, had eloped from their friends, and quitted the path of chaſtity for the high road to deſtruction.

Miss P—LM—R, whoſe father was a conſiderable merchant in the City, being a widower, and willing to ſee his daughter ſettled in the World before he re-engaged in the ſtate of matrimony, had found, as he imagined, a good match for her, in the perſon of a Portugueſe merchant, who was eſteemed vaſtly rich. The Young Lady was at this time but ſeventeen, was remarkably tall of her age, and very genteel; ſhe had fine blue eyes, that expreſſed, but modeſtly expreſſed, the emotions of her ſoul, and would have fired an Hermit, made him forget

forget his cell, and all his vows of celibacy; in a word, her whole frame was calculated to inſpire the tender paſſion in its fulleſt extent.

Her intended huſband was turned of fifty, and had not been favoured by Nature with either a graceful perſon, or a pleaſing countenance. He had paſſed the ſpring and ſummer of his life in thoſe ſultry climates which are not very favourable to the complexion, and his was now one of the darkeſt that are frequently met with in Europeans. By his inceſſant purſuit of buſineſs, and plodding for the main chance, he had contracted an illiberal turn of mind, which ſeemed to be eſtranged from all the nobler paſſions, and the fine feelings of the heart. Figure to yourſelf then, Reader, from this ſketch, ſuch a man to be the help-mate for life to the lovely

Lucy

Lucy we have juſt depicted. Can it be ſurpriſing, that ſhe ſhould object to ſuch a Lover, or that ſhe did not implicitly obey the commands of her Father upon this occaſion? But his mandates were irrevocable, and he could not be diverted from the purpoſe of his reſolution, by all the tender intreaties, all the imploring ſolicitations of his beauteous daughter; in vain her eyes ſtreamed, whilſt upon her knees ſhe bathed his hand in tears, only requeſting a ſhort reſpite from the dreadful ſacrifice. A day was fixed on for their nuptials, and ſhe was ordered to prepare for the ſame. In this dilemma, ſhe reſolved upon a deſperate ſtep;—ſhe determined upon an elopement, which ſhe carried into execution the night before her intended marriage.

Her mantua-maker lodged at the extremity

tremity of the town, towards *Berkeley-ſquare*. She was a woman poſſeſſed of thoſe female artifices calculated to betray innocence, and ſacrifice her own ſex for a little lucre. She had ingratiated herſelf into Lucy's good opinion by flattery, and thoſe apparent aſſiduities and affections which might impoſe upon a young female who had acquired far more knowledge of the World than Miſs P—LM—R. To this imaginary friend ſhe repaired, with what clothes ſhe could conveniently convey by a coach, and with what little money ſhe had ſaved from her pocket-allowance. Mrs. CRISP, for ſuch was the mantua-maker's name, received LUCY with open arms; careſſed her, as if ſhe had been her own child; and having learnt all the circumſtances of her ſtory, and the cauſe of taking this raſh ſtep, ſhe highly commended

mended the Young Lady's conduct, saying, she should have acted precisely in the same manner, had she been in a similar situation; "especially," she added, "if "she could have relied upon so trusty a "friend, as she flattered herself Miss "P—LM—R would find in her."

THE consolation she received from this artful woman greatly solaced the unfortunate wanderer; she recovered her chearfulness, and, a few days after, was prevailed upon to pay a visit with Mrs. CRISP to a particular friend of the latter, who was represented as a very agreeable, sociable woman, and who would entertain them nobly.

LUCY was easily persuaded to pay this visit, as she had been confined to the house for some days, to avoid detection,

having ſeen an advertiſement in the papers deſcribing her perſon, with a conſiderable reward for diſcovering where ſhe was concealed.

A COACH was accordingly called, and ordered to drive to Pall-mall. The Reader will, ere now, anticipate poor LUCY's deſtination, and already ſhudder at the fate of this unfortunate girl. They were received by Mrs. MITCHELL with great politeneſs, as this Lady had previouſly been made acquainted with Miſs P—LM—R's ſtory, and was convinced of what a treaſure ſhe would ſoon be in poſſeſſion of.

TEA, coffee, ſweetmeats, and every kind of refreſhment, were produced in the utmoſt profuſion. Miſs P—LM—R was for returning before ſupper; but ſhe was prevailed upon to ſtay. Mrs. MIT-

CHELL

CHELL then ſtrenuouſly intreated them to remain all night, as the weather was extremely bad, and it would be almoſt impoſſible to get a coach. LUCY very ſtrenuouſly objected to this meaſure at firſt; but was over-ruled by Mrs. CRISP, who ſaid it was a very lucky invitation, as ſhe had entirely forgot her apartments were to begin white-waſhing and painting the very next morning. This ſtratagem had ſo far its deſired effect; that is, it induced LUCY to remain all night at Mother MITCHELL's, but unannoyed by any brutal aſſailant.

MISS P—LM—R was going to riſe early in the morning, but Mrs. CRISP, her female Chum, adviſed LUCY to remain in bed till her return, as the Lady of the houſe did not breakfaſt till eleven; and that ſhe was going to wait on the Du-

cheſs of A——R with a new ſacque and coat. Under this influence Lucy remained till ſhe was invited to breakfaſt, which was in Mrs. MITCHELL's bedchamber. The breakfaſt was of long continuance; Lucy was urgently preſſed to taſte ſome cordials, but ſhe politely excuſed herſelf. At length dinner-time arrived, but no Mrs. CRISP. Lucy now began to be thoughtful, but ſuſpected no deſign upon her virtue. Mrs. MITCHELL at this very moment received a note from Mrs. CRISP, informing her, that ſhe was ſuddenly taken ill at a friend's houſe, and could not return agreeable to her promiſe to the Young Lady; but requeſted, as a peculiar favour, that the utmoſt care might be taken of her, and the greateſt attention paid her. Mrs. MITCHELL no ſooner read the note, than ſhe drank Mrs. CRISP's

CRISP's good health, and hoped her example would be followed in a bumper. LUCY reluctantly complied; but was quite unacquainted with, till she had swallowed, the liquor that she was drinking, the greatest part of a gill of brandy. It soon operated upon her tender frame; she presently fell into a doze, and did not wake till Mrs. MITCHELL informed her, a very particular friend of hers was below waiting for Miss LUCY. As soon as she had recovered herself, she immediately conceived it was Mrs. CRISP, who had called to take her home;—but the case was very different.

No sooner had Mrs. CRISP got Miss P—LM—R in her possession, than she flew to Mother MITCHELL, to inform her what a lovely guest she had, describing her minutely; and Mrs. MITCHELL immediately pointed out what advantage

might be made of her. She ſaid ſhe had a particular friend in the City, a very wealthy merchant, who had long panted to be in the arms of ſuch an object; and that he had given her a *carte blanche* to procure her; that if things could be brought to bear, Mrs. CRISP ſhould have her poundage, and a handſome *douceur* into the bargain. The terms were agreed to, the plan laid, and ſo far executed. Mrs. MITCHELL had written a billet to her principal, and he had promiſed punctually to wait upon the fair Incognita that evening.

IT was thought neceſſary, even at this criſis, to carry the deception on a little farther; and to prevent the bluſhes of real modeſty, and the ſhock of impending ruin, from operating too forcibly, to conduct Lucy into a dark room, where her friend lay *perdu*. On her entering the

the premiſes, ſhe ſaid with great innocence, "Lord, Mrs. CRISP, you have "ſtaid a long while—I am glad you are "come!"—"And I am very glad," replied a male voice; when ſeizing the fair innocent by the hand, he pulled her upon a ſopha, and took ſuch liberties as ſoon convinced LUCY of her real ſituation, and her imminent danger. She ſcreamed moſt vociferouſly; but this for ſome minutes had not the leaſt effect. At length, when her ſpirits and powers began to fail her, and ſhe could only utter, in a faultering voice, "Save me!—"oh! ſave me,—if you are a Man, a "Chriſtian, or a Parent!" Mother MITCHELL, thinking the buſineſs was ſufficiently accompliſhed, appeared with candles, and a ſmile of approbation and reproof were at once blended in her countenance. The cruel Spoiler ſtarted

from the couch of *inceſt*, and ſtood confeſſed—HER FATHER!

READER, let imagination ſupply the place of words;—depict to yourſelf this extraordinary, this critical, this dreadful ſituation. Mr. P—LM—R now fell on his knees, and in tears and ſupplications invoked her forgiveneſs. Her unexpected cruel treatment, the aſtoniſhment of ſuch a diſcovery, and many concomitant ideas hurried upon her ſo faſt, they overcame her reaſon—ſhe ſwooned, and did not recover till ſhe found herſelf in her own bed-chamber at her Father's, with the following letter ſealed upon her chair.

"My dear, ſweet, innocent, and much-
"injured Girl,

"WHAT apology can I make you
"for the repeated injuries and inſults you
"have

"have received at my hands?—You were,
"indeed, upon the brink of deſtruction,
"and your own Father had nearly been
"the deflowerer of his own daughter;—
"but happy I am to find, from various
"circumſtances, in conſequence of the
"ſtricteſt enquiry, that you are ſtill
"immaculate!—May you always re-
"main ſo, is my moſt fervent prayer!

"As ſome very trifling atonement for
"my paſt faults, errors, crimes and
"vices, incloſed you will find Bank-bills
"to the amount of ſix thouſand pounds.
"Diſpoſe of it as you pleaſe; fix upon
"the man of your own heart;—let him
"be deſerving of it, and he muſt have
"merit indeed! Then I will double that
"ſum for your portion, and hope to ſee
"you ſupremely bleſſed.

"I am

"More than words can expreſs."

CHAP. VII.

On Beauty. Female Affection for it. A Scale of Beauty. Some Obſervations on the ſame. HOGARTH'S *Line of Beauty exemplified. The violent Deviations from it in the* Cyprian Votaries.

SAINT EVREMOND tells us, that the laſt ſighs of a fine woman are more for the loſs of her beauty than her life; and experience ſeems amply to evince the truth of the aſſertion. As I propoſe confining this Chapter entirely to Beauty, by way of a *beautiful digreſſion*, of courſe it will be very ſhort; and I hope my Readers will not think, that, in imitation of the great and flowery Mr. BURKE, they are here to meet with the *Sublime* into the bargain. To the point.

SCALE

SCALE OF BEAUTY.

DIVINE.
ANGELIC.
ADORABLE.
CHARMING.
BEAUTIFUL.
PRETTY.
AGREEABLE.
JE NE SCAI QUOI.
LE TOUT ENSEMBLE.

[WE doubt not but every female in England, who is juſtly entitled to rank as *tout enſemble*, will think herſelf *divine*; we ſhall not, therefore, claſs any of our fair Readers upon the *Ton* —but leave them to take their places to their own ſatisfaction.]

HOGARTH has deſcribed the line of Beauty by an

S;

yet we doubt whether CHARLOTTE HAYES, Mrs. ADAMS, or the great GOADBY herſelf ever adverted to this type of Beauty, in the choice of their

Cyprian Votaries. POLLY C—— more reſembles a bouncing *B* than any other letter in the alphabet, and ſeems to be framed after that model exhibited at the Printer's in *Ratcliffe Highway*. KITTY M—— calls to our mind a long *J*; and notwithſtanding all the coſmetic art ſhe ſolicits to her aid, the firſt letter of the *jaundice* cannot be concealed. CHARLOTTE L—— indicates the *K* by her *tetons apoſtiches*, and her extravagant cork rump. Mrs. M——N conveys a very ſtriking idea of a *W*, by reaſon of the fluency of her *neck*, as Lord M——N has often *paſſionately* experienced. NELLY W——R, whenever ſhe does not make a conqueſt at the Play, ſtrongly reſembles an *X*; for ſhe is then ſo very croſs, there is no bearing to be under the ſame roof, until the door-bell rings to announce Sir ANDREW PIMPLE reel-

ing from the St. Alban's. But we approach too near the letter Z, for any farther comparisons, even by initials, as the Reader will be thoroughly convinced of in the following Chapter.

CHAP-

CHAP. VIII.

On Deformity. The Advantages ariſing from it to the Female World. Scale of Deformity.

BY way of contraſt to the former Chapter, and in imitation of the late ingenious Mr. HAY; having diſmiſſed all my Beauties in my former Chapter, I have now plenty of room for Frights of every claſs. But to put my Fair Readers a little in good humour, and reconcile them to the diſagreeable Portraits on the other ſide, I ſhall remind them of the advantages that may be derived from Ugline ſs, or even Deformity, in its ſuperlative degree. Look round the World and examine how few women have, in any degree, approached to happineſs by the road

road of Beauty; and how many, far many more, have been ruined by a fine face. In the moſt elevated ranks of life, a fine woman no ſooner appears upon the horizon of Gaiety, than ſhe is ſurrounded, nay, peſtered by the Fops and Witlings of the day. If ſhe has a large fortune to recommend her to a good match, ſhe may, perhaps, marry a man of rank, with a broken conſtitution and a vitiated taſte, who may, probably, pay her ſome aſſiduities for a few weeks, and then think, that having conferred a title on her, he has ſufficiently counterbalanced her fortune, which may in a great meaſure be anticipated by gaming debts, mortgages and annuities. Finding herſelf thus ſlighted by the man whom ſhe liſtened to for the ſake of a coronet only, her vanity is hurt at his coolneſs, and ſhe reſolves upon retaliation the very firſt opportunity, perhaps

haps with her groom or her hair-dreſſer. A Divorce ſoon enſues, as his Lordſhip finds another fortune convenient, if not neceſſary. Her Ladyſhip, it is true, may now roam at large;—but then ſhe is contemned and deſpiſed by the virtuous and ſenſible part of her own Sex, and treated with indignity by every man, who fancies he has a right to participate of her charms, after ſhe has thus publickly recorded herſelf a Proſtitute. To a woman of ſenſibility and delicate feelings, this ſtate muſt be hardly ſupportable; as at times, in ſpite of all her levity, ſhe muſt endure ſuch reflections, as will be too pungent for any Female not entirely loſt to all ſhame.

But view a pretty Female at the dawn of Beauty, expoſed to all the artifices of Seduction, all the wiles of Pimps and

Pandars.

Pandars. Without friends to protect or advise her; without a fortune to secure her a husband; with, perhaps, too much pride to condescend to a menial state; judging her beauty entitles her to rank with Gentry, if not Nobility; she falls an easy prey to vanity and ambition, and soon finds herself devoted to deformity and disease, the tyranny of Bawds, and the outcast of Society; at length, perhaps, doomed to pay the last debt of Nature in a prison or an hospital. My frolicksome Readers will, perhaps, think I am too grave upon the occasion, and moralize where I should amuse and entertain; I shall, therefore, terminate this Chapter in a less sententious manner.

As HOGARTH has described the line of Beauty to be an *S*, by a parity of descriptive reasoning, Deformity may be typified by a

Z,

as the moſt crooked letter in the alphabet; and the Scale of Deformity will ſtand as follows.

The *Ne Plus Ultra* of DEFORMITY: or, the Laſt Letter of the Alphabet.

DEFORMED.
UGLY.
FORBIDDING.
UNCOUTH.
DISAGREEABLE.
AUKWARD.
UNMEANING.
PASSABLE.

AMONGST all my female acquaintance, I do not know one that does not think herſelf more than paſſable; I cannot therefore ſuppoſe that any Lady whatever will lay claim to a niche in this

this gallery, though there is ample room for two-thirds of the Female Creation to have their buſts with great propriety fixed here. But as we forbore to mortify any part of the Fair Sex, by giving them an inferior rank even in the Scale of Beauty; much leſs ſhall we carry our impoliteneſs ſo far as to ſuggeſt to any individual, that even the *ne plus ultra* of Deformity may with juſtice be filled by Miſs ———, Lady ———, and many more ſelf-created Toaſts of the Age, notwithſtanding the advantages we have ſo plainly pointed out ariſing from Ugline ſs and Deformity, in the firſt part of this Chapter.

CHAP-

CHAP. IX.

KITTY NELSON's *Preparations for making a regular devotional Attack upon a certain Ambaſſador. The unfortunate Cataſtrophe. Her Acquaintance with Mr.* O'FL—TY. *Proves to be a Roniſh Prieſt. His pious Inſtructions, and Mode of Penance. His Adventures in Nunneries abroad. His Exploits here. Commences Quack, and his Reaſons for quitting that Trade.*

KITTY NELSON (who had lately been diſcarded from Mrs. GOADBY's) had long heard with envy of Lady CR—N's ſucceſsful charms, and ſhe was provoked to ſee her *Tea-pot* in all the print-ſhops. His Excellency the S—— A—— had ſlipt through her fingers,

gers, when ſhe expected a very ample *douceur* from that Nobleman's generoſity. He had viſited her ſeveral times, made her ſome ſmall preſents, and hinted that he ſhould probably make a ſettlement, were ſhe of the Romiſh Perſuaſion: ſhe declared ſhe was; but unfortunately could not anſwer ſome interrogatories that were put to her by the COUNT. Nevertheleſs, upon hearing a rupture had taken place between Lady C—N and the AMBASSADOR, ſhe reſolved upon making a bold ſtroke for recovering her admirer. This was dreſſing herſelf to the utmoſt advantage, taking a coach, repairing to his own Chapel, and placing herſelf in the moſt conſpicuous point of view to attract his attention, and appear as devout as a Magdalen.

SHE roſe accordingly very early that morning,

morning, ſent for her hair-dreſſer, and began the operations of the toilette by eight o'clock. Her faithful glaſs was attentively ſtudied for two hours, whilſt *Monſieur Le Friſeur* entered upon his employment of opening her head, for the firſt time within a month, and routing a legion of aſſailants in every part. A freſh collection of rouge, pearl-powder, and other coſmetics, was for the firſt time unpacked upon this occaſion, as ſhe was reſolved to outvie every devotional Beauty preſent, at leaſt in point of complexion. By eleven o'clock ſhe appeared, in her own opinion, a perfect Venus, and *Monſieur* confirmed her in this notion.—She ſallied forth in the full expectation of making a moſt *excellent* conqueſt. She had ſtudied her ſmiles and dimples, which ſhe propoſed occaſionally throwing in amidſt the operation of her religious ogles.

On her way, ſhe miſſed her Prayer-Book, which ſhe had prepared for this pious attack, and which was the only religious proof ſhe had in the world: it was requiſite, therefore, to return, which ſhe did with the utmoſt expedition, fearful of being too late for High Maſs. However, ſhe was juſt in time upon her arrival; and on entering the Chapel with a majeſtic air, ſhe was ſaluted in a very unexpected manner. A very zealous Devotee obſerving her not to pay proper attention to the Pot of Holy Water, kindly officiated for her, and in ſo copious a manner, that ſhe ſcreamed out, and apparently fainted; ſo different an effect had water upon her at this time to what it might at ſome other period. The truth is, her fright was occaſioned by the depredations made upon her charms by this unexpected inundation in her face —the *rouge* ran one way, the *blanc* another,

ther, and formed ſmall rivulets of red and white down her neck. The Graces were aboliſhed, the Venus was deſtroyed, and the unfortunate KITTY, from ſomewhat more than an Angel, as ſhe imagined herſelf at ſtarting, was, by this holy deluge, waſhed down to a Common Woman—*indeed!*

A GREAT uproar enſued, and ſhe was obliged to be reconducted to her coach, and a ſurgeon was ſent for to let her blood: but ſhe ſoon recovered her ſenſes; and having directly pulled out her pocket looking glaſs, was ſo terrified at the frightful appearance ſhe made, that ſhe now really ſwooned, and a phlebotomic operation was abſolutely expedient to bring her to herſelf.

THIS untoward accident greatly diſconcerted KITTY's religious plan, which

which ſhe was ſtill unwilling to give up, as ſhe flattered herſelf it had not reached his Excellency's ears, and as ſhe thought another devotional attack might ſtill prove ſucceſsful. She recollected that an Iriſh gentleman, named O'F—TY, frequently viſited her, and notwithſtanding the diſorder and confuſion that had ariſen from her accident, ſhe thought ſhe caught a glimpſe of him then officiating at the Altar; and the next time he viſited her, ſhe was reſolved, if poſſible, to worm the ſecret from him, in order to be properly inſtructed in her next attack upon His Excellency. Many days did not elapſe before he called upon her, and in the courſe of converſation, mentioned KITTY's adventure at the Chapel, not knowing that ſhe was the very Lady in queſtion. She improved upon the ſubject, and told him that ſhe was preſent, and ſaid, ſhe thought ſhe had ſeen him

in a very devout ſituation. Being thus taxed in ſo cloſe a manner, he bluſhed at firſt, but ſoon recovered his national aſſurance ſo well, as to get the better of any ſhame that might lurk under the diſcovery. He ſaid he was glad to find in her a Lady of ſuch good diſpoſitions, and he would endeavour to give her the beſt inſtructions in his power for the ſalvation of her ſoul: That theirs was a very indulgent religion: That Penance covered a multitude of ſins; and that Confeſſion and wearing a hairy waiſtcoat next the ſkin, once a month, did not leave the leaſt remorſe behind: That with regard to himſelf, ſhe might ſin (if ſinning it could be called) with impunity, as he was a Prieſt, and ſave herſelf the trouble of Confeſſion. In fine, he explained to her all ſuch myſteries as he thought neceſſary to be explained to her;—when at Maſs to kneel, and riſe; when to take Holy Water,

and

and in what quantity; for she was very attentive to this circumstance, lest she might make as great a blunder herself as another had done for her, and destroy all the artifices of the toilette, and the power of her charms.

After having thus revealed to her all that he judged essential with respect to religion, he related to her many stories concerning the Nunneries abroad. He said he had been Confessor to a Convent at *Douay* in Flanders; that he was very cautious at first, how he made any advances; but being one day confessing a Young Lady who had just taken the Veil, he was so smitten with her charms, that he could not refrain from making such an effort as proved successful. The pretty Nun owned that she was, perhaps, in a worse situation than himself; and there was nothing she wished for so much as to make

the firſt overture. This agreeable intimacy continued for ſome time; but it at length being diſcovered by another Siſter, he was obliged to pay his devotions to her to prevent his diſgrace: That this ſecond amour did not long remain a ſecret, but was detected by the Lady Abbeſs herſelf, whoſe friendſhip he was obliged to cultivate in the ſame manner. In fine, after a few months, the two Siſters proved pregnant, and the Lady Abbeſs ſo highly approved of his abilities, that he was brought to death's door; and he thought, for two forcible reaſons, that the moſt prudential ſtep he could take, was to decamp *a la ſourdine*.

From hence he travelled to *Liſle*; and in order to recommened himſelf to Madame de L——s, who was very fond of news, eſpecially if it was good, gave out he was juſt come from *Paris*; and that

the King having taken the caſe of the *Religieuſes* into conſideration, had conſented that every female in orders* "*qui pouvoit faire une petite bouche auroit un Mari.*" To which the Abbeſs, ſcrewing up her mouth as much as ſhe could, ſaid, "*Eſt-il poſſible?*"—"Aye, ſaid he, I have better news ſtill—That every one *qui pouvoit faire une grande bouche auroit deux:*"—when ſhe emphatically replied, extending her mouth as much as poſſible—"*Oh que c'eſt admirable!*" After having thus felt the pulſe of the Abbeſs, and the Siſterhood, for they all coincided in the ſame opinion, he was reſolved to be upon his

* "Every Nun that could make a ſmall mouth ſhould have a huſband."—"Is it poſſible?" ſhe replied.—"But every *Religieuſe* that makes a large mouth ſhould have two."—"Oh, that is admirable!" ſhe cried.

guard; and as every Nun and the Lady Abbeſs could diſpenſe with two huſbands, he thought it prudent to avoid the ſame misfortunes that had awaited him at *Douay*; and having frankly offered his ſervice to the Lady Abbeſs, he ſtuck cloſe to her, on the one hand not fearing the dangers of pregnancy, and on the other in hopes that a big belly might appear more on his ſide than the lady's. Here he acted like a judicious Politician, as well as a true Jeſuit, as in ſhort he recovered his *embon point*, and fleeced the Abbeſs of about two hundred pounds, which enabled him to make a voyage to Ireland; where having ſpent the greateſt part of it amongſt his relations and acquaintances, and finding that eccleſiaſtical ſervice was there very ill requited, he repaired to London, and after ſome time got into priſon, upon the information of a trading Conſtable.

ſtable. Recovering, however, his liberty, he was recommended to a certain Dowager of Faſhion, who always recompenſed her Chaplain, eſpecially if he was young and vigorous, very amply. In this ſervice he continued ſome months; but her Ladyſhip being ſomewhat too religiouſly inclined, and over-fond of her Chaplain's company, and at the ſame time of a very delicate conſtitution, ſhe fell into a decline, and quitted this world without recollecting him in her will.

Being once more thrown upon the World, he ſought for employment, and was recommended to a certain young Baronet, who found him very uſeful in the double capacity of Pimp and Prieſt; but being unluckily caught in the arms of his Patron's favourite Dulcinea, he was diſmiſſed his ſervice.

In this ſituation he commenced Quack Doctor. He got a number of bills printed upon credit, in which he announced the certain and radical cure of almoſt every diſorder incident to the human frame. He uſed to riſe at the break of day, and, in imitation of the celebrated Quack at the *Fleur de Lis* near *Hedge-Lane*, ſtick up his bills himſelf in every conſpicuous part of the Town; but he had the mortification to ſee, that before noon they were generally torn down, or covered over with much larger bills, ſo as to entirely prevent *his* being legible. In this dilemma, he diſguiſed himſelf in woman's clothes, with an old red cloak, and diſtributed his hand-bills himſelf at *Temple-Bar*, the *Royal-Exchange*, and elſewhere. This had too good an effect, in one ſenſe; for his cuſtomers or patients, which-ever they might

might be called, flocked to him ſo faſt, that he had not time to return home and change his dreſs from the feminine to the maſculine. However, a few good patients, from whom he received ſome comfortable fees, enabled him to employ a Deputy upon both thoſe occaſions. He now thought himſelf in a thriving way, when unfortunately a tradeſman's wife who was under his hands, taking an abrupt leave of this world, her huſband threatened to proſecute him; and he judged it expedient to ſhut up ſhop and quit his quarters. He was now applied to by a certain Noſtrum-monger, who rolls in his chariot, and lives near *Soho*, to become his Aſſiſtant; but finding that the Medicine by which he got the moſt money was to procure abortions, his conſcience would not let him yield to

the impulse of his ambition; he declined the proposal, and soon after obtained the place of Chaplain to his Excellency, in which capacity KITTY had discovered him.

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

On Quacks; Quackery; Empirics and Empiriciſm. The Villainy of their Practices diſplayed. A curious Anecdote of the late French Ambaſſador's Lady, with regard to one of the moſt ſhining Characters in the Chirurgical Walk.

THE Jeſuit's honeſty in refuſing to engage with an Empiric in partnerſhip, whoſe chief emoluments aroſe from procuring abortions, induced KITTY to make ſome inquiry into this buſineſs, thinking the Prieſt might have impoſed upon her in this part of his relation: but her deſign was anticipated by a hand-bill being put into her hand, as ſhe was paſſing through *Leiceſter-Fields*. The purport of this very curi-

ous advertiſement was a remedy for the Fair-ſex to remove *obſtructions*; but they were particularly adviſed not to uſe this medicine, *if they were pregnant*. This laſt *item* plainly pointed out the drift of the Noſtrum; and upon inquiry, KITTY found, that numbers of Females had been deſtroyed by this fatal, this unnatural preparation. Indeed it is aſtoniſhing that there is not a ſalutary law to prevent the impoſitions daily and hourly practiſed in this Metropolis by ignorant and deſigning Quacks, who are certainly ſome of the greateſt peſts of Society. If you were to credit their advertiſements, every diſorder incident to the human frame is inſtantly to be cured, and even diſorders that never exiſted, except in the brain of a Valetudinarian: and yet ſo credulous is the World, even in this age of ſcepticiſm, that many of theſe Impoſtors keep their equipages,

their

their town and country-houſes, roll in luxury, and riot in diſſipation. Quackery is indeed ſo much a trade, that it is no longer a myſtery, but a regular calling, which may be learned without an apprenticeſhip, and may be purchaſed or taken up like a freedom. The modeſty and learning of one of this Fraternity will ſerve to illuſtrate the ſkill, penetration, judgment and erudition of the reſt of his Brethren.

The Modeſty of Quacks exemplified.

ST. JAMES's CHRONICLE, NOV. 28. 1778.

"VANBUTCHER (having nor "aſſiſtant nor ſucceſſor) is inclined to "teach his art of Surgeon-Dentiſt, for "One Thouſand Guineas!"

WELL ſaid, Maiſter VANBUTCHER! No one but a butcher could cut up our language in ſo barbarous, ſo cruel,

and

and ſo inhuman a manner.—For Heaven's ſake, diſpoſe of your art, if it be only for Five Hundred Guineas—do not haggle about trifles—renounce the name of Surgeon, and ſtick to your real trade, VAN-BUTCHER.——You certainly would cut not only a great number of carcaſes, but a moſt excellent figure, the corner of *Litchfield-Street*; it is a thriving trade, Mr. BUTCHER, whether in the *van* or the *rear*.

I HAVE, it muſt be acknowledged, betrayed myſelf into a vein of raillery upon a very ſerious buſineſs. In the firſt inſtance, little ſhort of murder is daily committed, and poſterity deprived of its natural and juſt dues; populouſneſs decreaſed, and his Majeſty's ſubjects diminiſhed in the riſing generation—For what? To greaſe the chariot-wheels of

of whom? A Chriſtian? No, he muſt be a Jew in his heart as well as his religious profeſſion, to carry on ſuch an infernal trade at the price of human blood—for that in effect is the purchaſe. With regard to other Quacks, though they do not ſo immediately and directly point the mortal dagger; they, generally ſpeaking, undermine the vital frame, and by degrees deſtroy the human fabric.

As to Dentiſts, they live by rotten ſtumps; and half of them jump, having thrown aſide their livery, from behind a chariot into one.—I could point out ſeveral in this Metropolis, whom I have ſeen in the ſituation I have mentioned.

But the impertinence and abuſe of Phyſic is not confined merely to the Tribe of Quackery: Regulars even from *Warwick-Lane* are ſometimes infected with a diſorder

diſorder they ſeldom or ever cure—eradicate they never attempt, except in their own dear perſons. A conſultation of Phyſicians has often been held, whilſt the unhappy patient has been dying; and whilſt they have been diſputing about words, the unfortunate object of their conſultation has given up his laſt breath. The *Mock Doctor* has ſome lucky ſtrokes at more regular Empirics, if I may ſo call them; but they are rather faint, and more calculated for the meridian of France than England. In that country, Phyſic and the Law are paid very moderately; and therefore it is not ſurpriſing there ſhould be ſo many unexperienced limbs of both, as thoſe profeſſions are ſeldom followed by men of rank or opulence, as being unworthy their attention. To evince this aſſertion, and the opinion that is entertained of the Faculty by the French Nobility, I ſhall relate an

Anecdote

Anecdote that is indubitable, and as ſuch ſhall mention the parties names. The Lady of the late French Embaſſador being preſcribed phlebotomy, ſent for no leſs a man than CÆSAR HAWKINS; and after the operation, preſented him with a *petit ecu* (half-a-crown). He politely bowed, and retired. Her Excellency being that evening at a Rout, mentioned the circumſtance, adding, "*Qu'elle croioit que Mr. Hawkins fut un* "*très habile chirurgien.*" Upon which a Lady in company inquired what compliment ſhe had paid him for his attendance; to which, with great *naiveté*, ſhe replied, "*Un petit ecu.*" Being ſet right with regard to her error, ſhe ſent for that truly ſkilful gentleman the next day, apologized for her blunder, and made him a proper pecuniary acknowledgment.

I AM

I AM almoſt tired of this ſubject. Quacks and Quackery I abhor; and though, unlike Doctor PANGLOSS in the *Optimiſte*, I ſtill preſerve my noſe, I cannot think that all is for the beſt. I have perſonally known ſeveral unfortunate Females, who have unluckily been compelled to apply to what were called eminent Surgeons; and notwithſtanding their *Friend* has made ample recompence for a ſuppoſed radical cure, they have, to the ſcandal of Phyſic, been literally only patched and plaiſtered. So far from being perfectly reſtored to health, all the *virus* has ſtill prevailed with its utmoſt potency, and they have at length (after circulating the diſorder amongſt their friends and acquaintance) fallen martyrs to the infection.

I CANNOT refrain repeating it, that there is not, amongſt all the number of evils

evils that iſſued from *Pandora*'s Box, ſo great a peſt to Society as ignorant and deſigning Quacks, pretended Surgeons, and ſelf-diplomated Doctors. If I had occaſion to call a legal evidence upon the matter, I ſhould only appeal to the trial of Miſs BUTTERFIELD, for the ſuppoſed poiſoning Mr. SCAWEN. There is a field for obſervation and information; but I am really ſick, very ſick of the ſubject; and ſhall terminate this Chapter—this Chapter of Quackery, as ſoon as poſſible. The next, I flatter myſelf, will be more entertaining.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

The moſt tickliſh Chapter of all; or, Laugh and Grow Fat: containing ſome whimſical Comments upon ſome whimſical Characters; in which will be found (it is to be hoped) ſome entertaining Anecdotes of the celebrated KITTY FISHER, Lady C——R, General ARM——G, &c. &c. &c.

HAVING diſmiſſed Quacks and Quackery, and I hope fairly got rid of them, at leaſt in a medical ſenſe; let us now conſider how many ſelf-created Quacks there are in this kingdom, who deſtroy themſelves without the aſſiſtance either of laudanum or arſenic. I remember ſome years ago, when at Paris, that there was a very whimſical fellow of a Harlequin

Harlequin at the Italian Opera. Having loſt his dear, dear Miſtreſs, Miſtreſs Colombine, he reſolved, in a fit of complete deſperation, to deſtroy himſelf; but the difficulty was how to accompliſh the buſineſs. Drowning was going to ſuch a watery grave, that he was afraid it would give him the dropſy, ſpoil his ſhapes, and ever after prevent his playing Harlequin; cutting his throat would be called a bloody, cruel, and inhuman murder; piſtolling he had an utter averſion to, as he never could endure the ſmell of gunpowder; and as to *balls*, he deteſted all others except a *Bal-paré*. Poiſoning would never do; it was ſo ſlow a death, that he might live all the days of his life, before he came to the verge of mortality; as many poiſoned themſelves every day with their high-reliſhed viands and bacchanalian vigils, and ſtill crawled about the ſtreets of Paris, as a mere

a mere *memento mori*. He could like to go out of the world as a Gentleman, and would fain be decapitated; but the misfortune was, were he a *butcher*, or even the *bourreau* himſelf, he could not perform that capital office without a block or a cleaver. Hanging was ſuch a dangling, mean, Tyburn-looking ſituation, that his noble ſoul could never *aſcend* to it. What then was to be done? After a pauſe, ſaid he, "I have it: I'll e'en "die like a laughing Philoſopher. I will "be a profeſſed diſciple of *Democritus*, and "meet death not only with a ſmile, but "with a ha! ha!—I'll poſitively TICKLE "myſelf to death." Saying this, he began the operation, and not only laughed himſelf out of the world, but the whole Audience laughed themſelves almoſt to death.

How MANY Italian Harlequins are there in this creation, who not only tickle

tickle themſelves to death, but ſet the whole univerſal audience, the World itſelf, in ſuch a titter at their follies, that if there were a tax upon LAUGHING, Lord NORTH need not open any other Budget.

JACK SPINDLE fancies that the whole glory of this life conſiſts in deſtroying his health, and his fortune. He inverts the courſe of Nature; riſes with the moon, and goes to bed with the ſun. He is now but five-and-twenty; but to behold him you would pronounce him ſixty. He boaſts of more vices than fall to the lot of all the Bucks and Bloods of all the Inns of Court. He brags of his amours with Fruit-girls and profeſſed Harlots; and thinks there is an uncommon ſhare of merit in having debauched a common proſtitute, by the mercurial (I mean pimping) introduc-

tion of a guinea. He highly plumes himſelf upon his bacchanalian feats, and when he talks of the powers of his head, he ſays, "Laſt night—I mean this "morning, ſeven of us—ſixteen dozen "*magnum bonums*—HEADS LIKE ROCKS, "by G—d." This may be juſtly ſtiled *Buckiſh Titillation* into the other world.

WE ſhall not entirely overlook the Ladies in this tickliſh concupiſcence: many have tickled themſelves out of the world, in tickling their pretty perſons to look more beautiful. The celebrated KITTY FISHER fell a martyr to the coſmetic art. After purſuing an uncommon career of variegated gallantry, at length, by a ſtroke of female artifice, ſhe married a Gentleman of rank and fortune; and might have wound up her Hiſtory entirely to her own ſatisfaction, and ſet to the world an example of prudence and female heroiſm, in the character of a Female Rake

Rake reclaimed. But after having for ſome time levied contributions upon the whole Club at ARTHUR'S; been eſteemed the moſt accompliſhed, as well as beautiful Courtezan of her time; ſhe was not ſatisfied with making a final and honourable conqueſt in the perſon of her huſband: her pride and vanity predominated over her good ſenſe, and ſhe could not refrain from the impulſe of female ambition to make her appear more amiable, if poſſible, than Nature had formed her; and by endeavouring to create fictitious charms, deſtroyed at once her beauty and her life.

LADY C——Y was another votary to this ill-judged vanity. Though ſhe was celebrated for her charms, and made her fortune by her irreſiſtible attractions, ſhe was not contented, when moving in the elevated ſtation of a Counteſs (a rank

to which she could have no other pretensions than those which beauty gave her) to consult her faithful glass, and leave her angelic face *untickled* with the cosmetic art. But CONQUEST was her motto, and the sole pursuit of her life; to this she sacrificed her fame, her health, and at length her mortal existence.

WE shall for a while take our leave of the Ladies, and return to our own Sex. General ARM——R, who had passed a life of gaiety, gallantry, and dissipation; after, by a kind of miracle, he had attained his fifty-fifth year, then thought he had reached that period of life when marriage became prudent and necessary. But alas! the mistaken, debilitated Debauchee took a wife when he should have employed a nurse; and not satisfied with his error in its first concoction, so far blundered on, as to fix his affections

fections upon a beautiful young Lady not above eighteen. Having once engaged in the perilous maze of matrimony with ſuch a mate, his folly, ambition, or vanity, or all united, urged him to attempt acquitting his nuptial duties with the vigour and powers of a young man of twenty. To this end he inquired of a phyſician of his acquaintance concerning the ſtimulating effects of that baneful medicine, *cantharides*; and being informed that a certain quantity would probably operate in the manner he deſired, emulous of ſurpaſſing even his firſt wiſh, he doubled the doſe, and in the arms of his beautiful Mate breathed his laſt; *tickled* out of his life by doating love and extatic folly.

These martyrs to *Titillation* ſeem to have been tickled out of their mundane vital ſtate by the force of paſſion, vanity,

and falſe ambition; but we come now to ſome unfortunate Beings who fell victims to avarice, oſtentation, or villainy. The ſtory of the unfortunate Brothers, the PERREAUS, is recent in every one's memory. Hurried on by the falſe glare of grandeur, they precipitated themſelves into an abyſs of inevitable deſtruction: oſtentatious parade and faſtidious grandeur bewildered them; and they purſued the *ignis fatuus* of Pomp, till they were plunged into inextricable miſery.

To the number of martyrs in this liſt, the famous, or rather infamous Dr. DODD may be added. Incredible as one would think it, that a gentleman of his profeſſion, endowed with great and ſhining abilities, at one time an ornament to his profeſſion, and the conſtant magnet of, at leaſt, female devotion,

ſhould

ſhould be guilty of a crime for which alone his life could atone: yet the fact is too well known for me to need dwell upon it.

INDEED the PERREAUS and Doctor DODD may be ſaid to have literally tickled themſelves out of the world with a feather. Had they luckily uſed the other end, it might have been a laughable amuſement, and only excited the uſe of their riſible muſcles; but unluckily they took the wrong end, and ſigned their own doom with a gooſe quill.

PERHAPS this levity may be thought reprehenſible, upon ſo ſerious a ſubject as the laſt; but I could wiſh to laugh the world out of their follies, vices, and crimes; for it is in vain to reaſon with ſuch men as Dr. DODD: they are al-

ready in poſſeſſion of every argument that can be adduced from religion and morality againſt the commiſſion of unjuſt deeds. Many men are more affected with the force of ridicule than the powers of reaſon; and I have known Macaronies, notwithſtanding the ridiculous figures they make in life, dread far more being pronounced ridiculous, than vicious or even criminal. If we could laugh vice and folly out of doors, we ſhould go a great way to prevent crimes; and it were better to hang up a dozen Puppies *in terrorem* in their proper colours, than to ſee one poor wretch ſuſpended at the fatal tripod.

PROBABLY the Witlings and Pſeudo-Critics will now find fault with me, for being too moral and ſententious upon ſo frivolous a ſubject; but, according to the Fabuliſt, it is impoſſible to pleaſe every

every one. If I carry the Aſs, or my Son, or both, we ſhall ſtill excite the gibes of the ſpectators; I will therefore leave this Chapter in its preſent ſtate, as a cruſt for the Critics to nibble at; flattering myſelf, however, that I have by this time tickled the Reader into a good humour, and that he will laugh with me, as well as at me.

CHAP. XII.

A Trio of Geniuſes at the St. James's Coffee-Houſe. Mr. CHACE PRICE *reads a curious and witty ironical Account of* CHARLOTTE HAYES's *Nunnery: containing the Miracles wrought by her; with the Laws and Conſtitutions of this Seminary. They afterwards reſolve upon viſiting this Society.*

SAM FOOTE, CHACE PRICE, and GEORGE SEL---N, being at the St. James's Coffee-Houſe, Mr. PRICE ſaid he had juſt met with a very whimſical and humorous account of CHARLOTTE HAYES's Nunnery; and if it was agreeable to them he would read it. "By all means," ſaid SAM and GEORGE; when he read as follows:

"A Genuine

" A Genuine Account of the MONAS-
" TERY of SANTA CHARLOTTA.

" MANY important and laudable in-
" ſtitutions are kept from the world, by
" a timidity that always attends virtue
" and modeſty; whilſt enterprizes of far
" leſs conſequence are uſhered forth to
" the attention of the Public, by impu-
" dence and preſumption; and in pro-
" portion to the merit of the Candidates,
" the Public is injured or impoſed upon.

" IT ſhall be my taſk to prove myſelf
" the Champion of a foundation that
" hath its political as well as civil ad-
" vantages. What Parent or Guardian
" need now be at the expence or trouble
" of ſending his Daughter or Ward to
" St. Omer's or Liſle, when they may
" reap all the advantages of a Nunnery-
" education in a Seminary inſtituted by
" one of our own Countrywomen in the

" moſt polite part of the Metropolis?
" No Gallic prejudices are here to be
" dreaded—no foreign errors in female
" education, ſo difficult to be eradicated,
" will here be adopted; but whilſt they
" eat Engliſh food, and are inſpired with
" the ſentiments of Engliſh Liberty, our
" treaſures will be confined to our own
" Iſland, which we have too long ſquan-
" dered upon exotic Nunneries. Is there
" a Briton, whoſe boſom does not glow
" at ſuch a capital ſtroke of politics, ſo
" far beyond all the Anti-Gallican
" ſchemes of former projectors? For
" this Inſtitution is not only planned,
" but actually executed; and the
" building, lately erected, is ſituated a
" few paces from Pall-Mall.

" THIS Eſtabliſhment was founded by
" a living Saint, whoſe name it bears;
" and if we may judge by the many mi-

"racles ſhe has wrought, and is ſtill "working, there is no doubt but ſhe "will be canonized, and added to her "near relation in miracles, St. JANUA-"RIUS. To this the Reader muſt readi-"ly acquieſce, when he peruſes the fol-"lowing

"Liſt of MIRACLES performed and "performing by SANTA CHARLOTTA.

"SHE liquefies any number of gui-"neas into Champaign, Burgundy, or "Arrack Púnch inſtantaneouſly.

"CURES the evil of Love, and broken-"hearted Swains, by the Touch.

"MAKES fair women black, and "black women fair. Makes old dotards "believe themſelves gay, vigorous "young fellows; and turns vigorous "young fellows into old dotards.

" Has a peculiar ſpecific for making
" any man's wife hate him, and an im-
" mediate divorce taking place between
" them.

" Administers Abſolution in the
" moſt deſperate caſes, without Confeſ-
" ſion.

" Is poſſeſſed of the Univerſal Pa-
" nacea, or Philoſopher's Stone; and,
" to the great aſtoniſhment of all be-
" holders, tranſmutes the *baſeſt braſs*
" into the *pureſt gold*, by a proceſs as
" quick as it is unaccountable, and
" which has eſcaped the diſcovery of all
" Chymiſts and Alchymiſts, either her
" predeceſſors or cotemporaries, &c.
" &c. &c.

" Having thus diſplayed her mira-
" culous powers, which ſo eminently
" entitle

"entitle her to be placed among the "Modern Saints; we ſhall now enter "upon the Laws, Conſtitutions, Regu-"lations and Manners of this Seminary.

"EVERY Siſter who is a Candidate "for the Veil, muſt be either young or "handſome; if both, the better quali-"fied; this being conſidered a greater "ſacrifice to the Goddeſs VENUS, to "whom this Inſtitution is dedicated. "She muſt not have been very intimate "with the World, nor the World with "her; and if ſhe has never been ſeen "abroad, the Abbeſs conſiders her as "ſtill more worthy of being admitted "amongſt the Siſterhood.

"SHE muſt not be married, or have "any favourite Lover; if ſhe ſhould "have any tender attachment remaining,

"ſhe

" ſhe muſt immediately apply for the
" miraculous Touch, to be cured.

" As the Brethren of the adjacent
" Seminaries are ſo kind as to viſit this
" Siſterhood, and in a moſt friendly and
" loving manner, as is ſuitable to their
" characters, bring them to confeſſion,
" and adminiſter comfort; the Siſter-
" hood muſt, upon all ſuch occaſions,
" open their *boſoms*, and conceal *nothing*
" from theſe worthy Brethren.

" As the riches of this world are be-
" neath the attention of ſuch Devotees
" as have ſequeſtered themſelves in a
" Cloiſter, the worthy Patroneſs, SANTA
" CHARLOTTA, does upon all occaſions
" appropriate any preſents, gifts, or
" poſſeſſions of the Siſterhood, in ſo re-
" ligious a manner, as to be no excite-
" ment to their vanity or ambition.

" SANTA

"SANTA CHARLOTTA, in planning "this glorious and virtuous Founda- "tion, having in abhorrence Infidels "and their laws, ſo ſhe adopts none of "them; not even that heatheniſh, "Turkiſh one, the preclusion of the uſe "of Wine, though it may carry with it "an air of auſterity and forbearance. "On the contrary, ſhe allows the Siſ- "terhood a moderate uſe of Wine, up- "on particular occaſions; and more eſ- "pecially when any capital proceſs of "the liquefication of Gold takes place; "theſe being conſidered as Feſtivals by "the Siſterhood, and diſtinguiſhed by "red letters in the Calendar of the "Seminary.

"NEITHER does her ſeverity extend "to deprive them of the enjoyment of "rational and innocent diverſions; and

"con-

"considering Dramatic Repreſentations "of every kind under this head, ſhe "allows them frequently to viſit the "Theatres, and even the Opera; at each "of which places a particular Box is "appropriated for the Siſterhood of the "Seminary of SANTA CHARLOTTA. As "the Iriſh Jeſuits, and other itinerant "Prieſts of that country are now very "numerous in this Capital, more eſpe-"cially ſince their expulſion from "abroad; and as thoſe Prieſts are "known to be poor and neceſſitous, the "Siſterhood are particularly cautioned "not to confeſs to any Brethren of that "Kingdom, except the Prior of the Mo-"naſtery, who, though a native of Ire-"land, does not (for particular reaſons) "come under this predicament.

"As the fervent Devotion of the

"Nuns

"Nuns ſhould be an object of their "greateſt attention, they are not to be "diverted from it, either by ſervants or "Female Viſitors, upon any pretence "whatever.

"SHOULD any Male Viſitor of any "Order attempt to ſeduce or inveigle "any Siſter out of the Convent, the "moſt exemplary puniſhment is to be "inflicted upon the Culprit, and his "re-admiſſion is not to be pleaded "for even by SANTA CHARLOTTA her-"ſelf.

"IT is judged adviſeable, for the "good order and regulation of the So-"ciety, that they ſhould have no in-"tercourſe with the Siſterhood of any "other Seminary; and that they alſo "avoid all communication with that

"Order

" Order of Mendicants called *Buckonites*,
" ſo pernicious to the Female World.

" NOTWITHSTANDING the upright in-
" tentions of SANTA CHARLOTTA, and
" her fervent deſire of aboliſhing all
" heatheniſh diſpoſitions or connexions
" in this Seminary; ſhe nevertheleſs
" thinks, it may be convenient for the
" Siſterhood to confer ſometimes, un-
" der certain limitations, with the Rab-
" bies, whoſe profundity of knowledge
" and myſtic ſkill may afford inſtruction
" and ſatisfaction.

" No Female Viſitors are admitted
" without letters of recommendation,
" ſetting forth their chaſte life and
" virtuous diſpoſition; which letters
" are to be written by thoſe who have
" given inconteſtable proofs of their at-
" tachment to this Seminary.

" SANTA

"SANTA CHARLOTTA, who conſiders "exerciſe as a great aſſiſtant to health, "frequently viſits public places, and "may often be met with in the ſtreets of "this Metropolis, with two or three of "the Siſterhood. Such examples of "juvenile Beauty devoted to Virtue "and a Monaſtic Life, added to the ſa-"tisfaction and chearfulneſs expreſſed "in their lovely countenances, have "often increaſed the number of Vota-"ries to the Goddeſs who here pre-"ſides.

"WHEN the weather will not admit "of theſe perambulations, they take "the air in an elegant equipage, belong-"ing to the Convent, and they con-"ſtantly attract the attention of all paſ-"ſengers.

"THE

"THE hours of the Sisters retiring to "rest and rising, are various, according "to the different vigils they have to "keep, and the number of Saints they "pray to; for, in this point, SANTA "CHARLOTTA is very rigid, and, in case "of any default, will allow them no re- "mission. In other respects, great re- "gularity is preserved, and they associ- "ate all together at meals, when the "strictest decorum is preserved.

"As these vigils and prayers may be "considered as the foundation and main "prop of this institution; so nothing "can give SANTA CHARLOTTA more "real satisfaction, than to find every Sis- "ter has counted her beads with that "fervor and devotion which should so "peculiarly characterize this Order. "And as the approbation of their Con-

"fessors

" feſſors is generally teſtified upon theſe
" occaſions by a diamond croſs, or ſome
" ſuch valuable preſent; they are each
" allowed to wear one of theſe croſſes
" hanging to their beads, in the form of
" necklaces, whilſt they remain in this
" Seminary.

" As this Inſtitution is not of the moſt
" rigid kind, and as all the ornamental
" parts of Female Education are here
" propoſed to be brought into full play,
" neither muſic nor dancing is prohibit-
" ed; on the contrary, there are Maſters
" for both, many of the Siſters having
" made a great proficiency in theſe arts;
" and the guittar, cotillons, and even
" the *minuet de la cour*, are now played
" and performed with uncommon repu-
" tation.

" THERE

"THERE is a phyſician belonging to "the Nunnery, who acts in the double "capacity of Doctor and Confeſſor oc-"caſionally, and takes neither fees nor "ſalary.

"IN a word, all the innocent joys of "convivial delight, and ſocial felicity, "reign uninterrupted in this Seminary, "untinctured with that monaſtic auſteri-"ty, or prieſtly rigour, which ſo much "diſguſt the recluſe of foreign Nun-"neries."

AFTER Mr. PRICE had gone through his Lecture, he received the applauſe of the whole company, not only for having read this *jeu d' eſprit* with uncommon propriety, but for being ſhrewdly ſuſpected as the Author of this pointed compoſition. Be this as it may, it was agreed

agreed to make a party that evening, to visit SANTA CHARLOTTA and her Nuns; and we shall not fail accompanying this *Trio of Geniuses* upon the Occasion.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

Meſſrs. FOOTE, CHACE, *and* S—L—YN *viſit* CHARLOTTE HAYES's *Nunnery. Their Reception. A Deſcription of the Nuns they meet with, and the Converſation upon the Occaſion. Sketch of the Memoirs of the Counteſs of* Medina. *Her extraordinary Adventures and Heroiſm. Miſs* H—Y—D *exhibits as a Singer and a Spouter, and is much applauded.* FOOTE *reſolves to engage her. Some whimſical Animadverſions that ariſe from the ſubject*, &c.

THE Geniuſes met according to appointment, and repaired to CHARLOTTE's. They were politely introduced, and after ſome compliments, of which

which Mrs. Hayes has a ſtring ready cut and dry, Sam Foote ſaid, That they had come there in conſequence of reading the rules and laws of her Seminary, which to him appeared extremely judicious, and happily calculated for promoting decency, decorum, and good order. The Abbeſs politely thanked him for his civility; and being requeſted to introduce them to ſome of her Nuns, ſhe ſaid, ſhe would; that Clara Ha—w—d was juſt dreſſed, and would make her appearance immediately; that Miſs Sh—ly had paid her devotions ſo fervently that morning, that to recover her ſpirits, and recruit her vivacity, ſhe was ſtill taking reſt; that Miſs S——d—m was engaged with an old Baronet, who conſtantly viſited her twice a week; and that Miſs W—lls and Miſs Sc—tt were juſt gone to the

Play at half-price in the Fleſh-Market; but in caſe they had no ſucceſs, they would return immediately after the performance was finiſhed. During this conference the bell rang, a ſedan-chair ſtopped, and the celebrated COUNTESS OF MEDINA was announced as a viſitor. Mr. PRICE, who had heard much talk of this Lady, as a phœnomenon in the world of Female Gallantry, begged that ſhe might be introduced. Mrs. HAYES readily conſented, and the Counteſs was uſhered in. Little ceremony was uſed before ſhe was prevailed upon to drink a bumper of Champaigne. Mr. PRICE being eager to learn the outline of her ſtory, preſſed her upon that head, and ſhe conſented to give a ſhort narration of her adventures, in nearly the following words.

"MY origin is from the ancient and "illuſtrious houſe of *Caſtille*, being de-

"ſcend-

"ſcended in a direct line from that re-
"gal family. In my youth, I received
"an education ſuitable to my birth,
"and, beſides the common accom-
"pliſhments in the female line, I ſtudied
"arms, and was reckoned one of the
"beſt *ſwordſwomen* in all *Toledo*. This
"and ſimilar purſuits gave my mind a
"turn for Chivalry, which was not a
"little encouraged by reading books
"upon that ſubject. I had, ere now,
"many ſuitors; but finding in myſelf a
"very ſtrong paſſion for amorous gratifi-
"cation, I reſolved, contrary to the uſual
"manner, to marry; not ſo much for the
"ſake of high alliance, titles, and fami-
"ly connexions, but to wed a man to
"whom I thought I might be conſtant
"in proportion to his vigour. In fine,
"Count MEDINA appeared in my eyes
"to be a man entirely after my own

" heart; he was ſtout and athletic, had an
" engaging countenance, and ſomething,
" as we are here under the Roſe, I ſhall
" not ſcruple to ſay was more engaging
" than all the reſt—this was an uncom-
" mon protuberance in his breeches.
" The marriage took place, and I ima-
" gined myſelf the happieſt woman up-
" on earth, having pourtrayed to my-
" ſelf in the moſt bewitching colours
" the felicities of the connubial bed. The
" day of our marriage, though the
" happieſt, ſeemed to me the longeſt I
" ever knew. Welcome night at length
" came, and after the uſual ceremonies
" upon the like occaſions, we were bed-
" ded. But, alas! what was my diſap-
" pointment, my chagrin, my mortifica-
" tion, to find that protuberance which
" had promiſed me ſo much delight—to
" be neither more nor leſs than—A VIO-
" LENT RUPTURE!"

HERE

HERE an uncommon burſt of laughter iſſued from all parts of the room; and after a pauſe, SAM FOOTE ſaid, he ſuppoſed that one *rupture* ſoon produced another.

To this the Counteſs anſwered in the affirmative; and that finding herſelf thus deceived, and impoſed upon, ſhe never would again bed with the Count. She aſſigned her reaſons to her female relations, who approved of her conduct. She ſoon after made a particular acquaintance with a young Officer, who, tired with the ſupine ſtate of an inactive life, had reſolved to go a Volunteer in the French army then in Flanders; and the Counteſs agreed to accompany him in the ſame capacity. She accordingly equipped herſelf *en militaire*, and ſet out upon this heroic expedition.

"I was," ſaid ſhe, "at moſt of the "battles and ſieges, at the latter end of "the war before laſt, in Flanders, and "acquitted myſelf ſo well as a Volun-"teer, as to be honoured with a Com-"miſſion. My attachment was ſo great "to the idol of my heart, *Don Pedro del* "*Cuiſo*, the partner of my fortune and "my bliſs, that I viewed with a jealous "eye every female he converſed with. "Being at Liſle, he formed an intima-"cy with the wife of a Colonel, who "was eſteemed a very fine woman. I "had too much reaſon to ſuſpect my "Lover's fidelity, for I ſurpriſed him in "ſuch a ſituation with Madame LA "T—CHE, that would admit of not the "leaſt doubt. I called him to account; "he rallied me for ſome time, and ſaid "he could not draw his ſword upon a "woman: but I drew mine, and bid "him defend himſelf. The conſequences

"were dreadful; he wounded me in the "breaſt: but alas! a fatal thruſt level-"led him to the earth.—I fled for aſſiſt-"ance, and ſent him a ſurgeon immedi-"ately. As to my own wound (ſaying "this, ſhe opened her boſom and ſhew-"ed it) I paid no attention to it; tho', "upon its being dreſt, it gave my "ſurgeon apprehenſions for my life. "Having recovered, and the campaign "being finiſhed with the war, I came "over to England. Here a variety of "fortune attended me. Being at firſt in "poſſeſſion of a conſiderable ſum of mo-"ney, I kept my equipage, and gave a "full ſcope to my amorous deſires with "every fine fellow that came in my way, "ſupplying their wants occaſionally, "till at length I began, too ſenſibly, to "diſcover my own.

"It was time now to think of levy-

"ing contributions with my charms;
"and I had ſcarce come to this pious
"reſolution, before Lord PYEBALD fell
"in my way. He introduced himſelf to
"me under a fictitious name, and paſſed
"for a merchant. I did not then know
"him or his character, but I ſoon diſco-
"vered both, for upon our firſt *rencontre*
"*il m'a ratté.*"

GEORGE S—L—N obſerved, this was quite in character; for his Lordſhip had certainly *ratté'd* more women than all the reſt of the Peerage put together, Lord FUMBLE of the Stable-yard not excepted.

CLARA now entered, and as Mr. PRICE had ſufficiently gratified his curioſity with the Counteſs's narrative, the converſation took another turn. Miſs H—YW—D was deſired to ſing a ſong, which

which ſhe readily complied with, and acquitted herſelf greatly to the ſatisfaction of the whole company. Mrs. HAYES having ſaid that CLARA was an excellent Spouter, FOOTE requeſted as a favour, that ſhe would ſpeak a ſpeech; which, after ſome little heſitation, to recover herſelf, ſhe did from the Fair Penitent. SAM ſo highly approved of it, that he ſwore ſhe ſhould come upon his ſtage, if it was agreeable to her. CLARA then thought he was merely in raillery, and therefore only curtſeyed; but a ſhort time afterwards ſhe was engaged at the Hay-market, and the applauſe ſhe afterwards met with, both there and at Drury-Lane, corroborated FOOTE's judgment in her favour.

Miss SH—D—M now deſcended from the old Baronet; but upon being re-

queſted to ſing, ſhe ſaid, ſhe was ſo fatigued with operating upon Sir HARRY FLAGELLUM, that ſhe begged a ſmall reſpite to recover her ſpirits. "Two long "hours, ſaid ſhe, have I been with this "old Curmudgeon; and I have had as "much labour to rouze the Venus lurk-"ing in his veins, as if I had been whip-"ping the moſt obſtinate of all mules "over the Alps."

CHACE PRICE ſaid, he wondered that a Lady of CHARLOTTE's fertile imagination had never invented an engine to do this drudgery-work: That a thought had, however, juſt come into his head, for the conſtruction of one; and like that ſome years ſince invented for ſhaving a hundred at a time, at leaſt a ſcore FLAGELLUMS might have their warmeſt and moſt ſalacious wiſhes gratified at the ſame period.

FOOTE was for improving the hint, and turning the ſcheme to a national advantage, as he thought theſe machines ſhould be conſtructed by patent, and a heavy tax laid upon each; or, if this ſhould not be judged expedient, he thought that a conſiderable duty ſhould be levied upon birch.

GEORGE S—L—N now began to inquire into the ſtate of Virginity in Nunneries, as he had been aſſured by Alderman PORTSOKEN laſt night at the London-Tavern, being then pretty much elevated, that he had a real Virgin the night before at CHARLOTTE's Nunnery, but that he could not conceive how the *Hymen* could be preſerved.

CHARLOTTE was here taken ſomewhat out of her latitude; but the Champaigne operating by this time pretty

powerfully, and thinking to support the dignity of her houſe, ſhe very injudiciouſly replied, "As to Maidenheads, it was her "opinion, that a Woman might loſe her "Maidenhead five hundred times, and be "as good a Virgin as ever. Dr. O'PA-"TRICK had aſſured her, that a Maiden-"head was as eaſily made as a pudding; "that ſhe had tried herſelf, and though "ſhe had loſt her's a thouſand times, ſhe "believed ſhe had as good a one as ever, "as ſhe had been under the Doctor's "hands that very morning. With re-"gard to *Hymen*, ſhe always underſtood "he was a *God*, and therefore could not "be any part of a Woman. She would "venture to ſay, that ſhe had as many "Maidenheads now in poſſeſſion, as "would ſerve the whole Court of Al-"dermen, aye, and the Common Coun-"cil into the bargain. She had one "girl, Miſs SH—Y, juſt come from the

"Play

"Play with Counſellor PLIANT, who "had gone through twenty-three edi-"tions of Veſtality in one week; and be-"ing a Bookſeller's daughter, ſhe knew "the value of repeated and freſh edi-"tions, as ſhe had, for a conſiderable "time, ſtitched under her father's own "inſpections."

CHARLOTTE having thus concluded this curious narration, which was a compound of ignorance, Iriſh blunders, and falſe wit, took a bumper of Champaigne to recruit her ſpirits. FOOTE now propoſed going, and Mrs. HAYES propoſed cards, ſaying, the Count would be in preſently, and would make one.—"No," replied FOOTE; "I know the Count too well: I "am not ſo ignorant in palmiſtry and "the long ſhuffle, as to engage with JO-"NAS. Not that I think the Count a "con-

" conjurer at it; but it is a rule with me, " never to contend with any man in his " own profeſſion."

HAVING paid the reckoning, which was pretty well charged, and FOOTE having made an appointment with CLARA H—YW—D for next morning to engage her as an Actreſs, they retired, and afterwards made themſelves very merry, at the *Bedford-Arms*, with this whimſical adventure.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIV.

Some Account of Mrs. MITCHELL's *Nunnery. An extraordinary Device upon her Door, and its Effect. History of Miſs* EMILY C——LTH——ST. *Lord* L——N *becomes enamoured with her. His Valet undertakes the amorous Siege, in behalf of his Maſter. Its Progreſs. His Stratagems; and their Succeſs. Becomes Lord* L——N's *Miſtreſs, who is cloyed with her Charms. A Deſcription of her Perſon. A whimſical Accident at the Play-Houſe. Her exemplary Conduct to the Siſterhood,* &c.

WE have paid a ſufficiently long viſit to CHARLOTTE, and have eſtabliſhed her Nunnery upon ſo excellent a footing, that we think ſhe cannot help

help thriving. We ſhall now take a peep in at her Neighbour's.

Mrs. MITCHELL, her next door neighbour, was, probably, the firſt Lady Abbeſs who ever affixed a Latin Motto upon her door, to draw cuſtomers, by recommending the goodneſs of her commodity; on a braſs plate was inſcribed,

* IN MEDIO TUTISSIMUS.

The novelty of the thought certainly attracted her a number of viſitors; and ſhe failed not to procure the beſt commodities, and thereby render the middle way ſecure. Amongſt the foremoſt of her Nuns, ſtands Miſs EMILY C——L——H—ST. As this Lady has made, and ſtill makes much noiſe in the World, a little ſketch of her Perſon and Hiſtory will not be unacceptable to the Reader.

* The Reader will find this erroneous inſcription rectified in the Second Volume.

HER

HER father keeps a capital ſhop in Piccadilly; and being viſible one day when the E— of L——N came there to give ſome orders, his Lordſhip was greatly ſmitten with EMILY's charms; and upon his return home, ruminated upon the moſt probable means of gaining poſſeſſion of her. His truſty Valet and Mercury being acquainted with the impreſſion the young Lady had made upon him, was promiſed a handſome reward if he could procure her for him. The bait was too alluring; and he told his Lordſhip, no ſtone ſhould remain unturned for the accompliſhment of his wiſhes. He accordingly began his attack by writing her a letter, in which he ſaid, "He had often contemplated her charms with rapture, but had flattered himſelf he could have ſurmounted their power, and that he found it impoſſible any longer to conceal his paſſion; he there-

fore

fore threw himſelf at her feet, and implored her mercy: that his fate was in her hands, and that ſhe ſhould decide his doom as ſhe pleaſed; that death to him was far preferable to a life of inceſſant torment, which nothing but the lovely EMILY's fair hand could remove." EMILY read this epiſtle with ſome emotion. On the one hand, her vanity was in ſome meaſure completely gratified, by having made ſo complete a conqueſt of a handſome young fellow, whom ſhe knew by coming to the ſhop; on the other hand, her pity and compaſſion were roufed at his diſtreſs. She, however, conſulted a female confidante, how ſhe ſhould act upon the occaſion. Lord L———N's Gentleman was an object not to be deſpiſed; eſpecially as he was known to be ſo great a favourite with his Lordſhip, as to controul the whole houſe, and his Lordſhip into the bargain. His

Lordſhip

Lordſhip had great intereſt at Court, and might get him a genteel place: at all events, ſhe ſhould be well married, a thing ſhe had long wiſhed for. She accordingly returned him an anſwer, which, though equivocal, afforded him ſufficient hope to proceed with ſucceſs. Mr. L——s failed not to avail himſelf of having gained ſo much ground, and the ſuit went, ſeemingly, ſwimmingly on. He had ere now introduced a female acquaintance, under the title of his Siſter, whom EMILY conſidered already as her own, and opened to her the inmoſt receſſes of her heart, which were ſpeedily communicated to her nominal Brother. In a word, he found he had in this amorous ſiege already mounted the glacis, and might ſoon be in poſſeſſion of the covered way.—A party was propoſed for the Play; and as Mr. L——s' *Siſter* was to be one, EMILY readily conſented.

They

They were all extremely pleaſed, and well entertained, till the concluſion of the Drama, when unluckily (or rather luckily for L——s) it rained violently, and no coach was to be got. What was to be done?—Adjourn to an adjacent Tavern, and take a bit of ſupper, till the rain ſubſided, or a coach could be found. EMILY at firſt ſtartled at the name of a Tavern; but upon her female companion laughing at her falſe delicacy upon ſuch an occaſion, eſpecially when in *ſuch* company, her ſcruples were eaſily ſurmounted. A bottle of Madeira was immediately called for, and a glaſs round taken whilſt ſupper was getting ready. L——s had not forgot to prepare the waiter with a bribe, and to introduce a bottle of Champaign pretty well ſtrengthened with brandy. It was a cold wet night, and upon coming out of ſo warm a place as the Play houſe,

another

another glaſs could do no harm; this at leaſt was L——s's doctrine, and it prevailed to a third. By this time EMILY's eyes began to ſparkle more than uſual, which afforded L——s an opportunity of complimenting her upon an addition to her charms, from hilarity and an unconſtrained behaviour. Supper paſſed, and it ſtill rained very much, and no coaches were yet upon the ſtand. Now was L——s's time for his *grand coup*. He was prepared with an opiate, which he artfully infuſed into a glaſs of wine, which EMILY drank: it ſoon began to operate; and MORPHEUS prevailed with all his powers. EMILY being thus conſigned to ſleep, L——s and his pretended ſiſter retired, when his L——p, who was in an adjacent room waiting the event, entered, and with little difficulty gave a looſe to his moſt luxurious wiſhes. She awoke, and too ſenſibly diſcovered her

her ſituation. She knew his Lordſhip: —ſhe ſaw ſhe was ruined. It was his part now to appeaſe her with all the rhetoric of ſophiſticated Love. His paſſion for her was ſo powerful, that it baffled every effort of reaſon that he had called into play: that he adored, he idolized her; and gave her a *carte blanche* for her own terms of living with him. A chariot, an elegant houſe, five hundred a-year, were ſuch temptations as few women could reſiſt; and they proved powerful advocates upon the occaſion, in favour of his Lordſhip's ſuit. In a word, ſhe yielded at diſcretion, and ſoon became poſſeſſed of all his Lordſhip promiſed her. But alas! ſatiety flows from repeated gratification; and after the revolution of a few months, he found that his paſſion was not ſo inordinate, but that, under the pretence of jealouſy, he could bring on a quarrel, and thereby terminate their connection.

A YOUNG female under twenty, with ſuch charms as EMILY poſſeſſed, has ſeldom prudence ſufficient to profit of the preſent, and make a proviſion for a future day. Image to yourſelf a tall, elegant figure, moving like a Grace; with fine regular features, the moſt ſeducing eyes, and pouting lips that courted a kiſs from every male beholder, in which were incloſed two rows of ivory that ſeemed to vie for regularity and whiteneſs—I ſay, image ſuch a figure, and wonder not that her faithful glaſs told her, that ſhe had a juſt claim to univerſal conqueſt: that if one Lord ſlighted her, the whole remaining Peerage was at her devotion. With theſe ſentiments, can it be ſuppoſed that EMILY could ever harbour a thought of want?—But the viciſſitudes of this life are ſo extraordinary and unexpected, that in a ſhort time this was literally the caſe.

Her

Her trinkets, jewels, and moſt of her cloaths being diſpoſed of for neceſſaries, without an offer being made that ſhe thought worthy of her acceptance, ſhe found herſelf compelled to ſubmit to ſuch other meaſures as neceſſity dictated. In fine, Mrs. MITCHELL having found her out, and diſcovered her ſituation, invited her to her houſe, and had the perſuaſive eloquence to obtain her for an inmate. This Lady has made a conſiderable eclat in the circles of gaiety, and, with more propriety than moſt women, may be ſtiled *The Female Phaeton*, having laſt ſeaſon literally blazed a meteor at the Hay-market Theatre: in plainer Engliſh, the altitude of her cap not being calculated for the height of the girandoles, it caught fire at one of the lights, and had nearly proved fatal to her, as well as the reſt of the Ladies in the box, from their combuſtible head-

dreſſes,

dreſſes, had not Mr. Gl——n, with much gallantry, and no ſmall perſonal riſk, extinguiſhed this very capital conflagration. Having thus reſcued the beautiful Emily from the flames of a faſhionable head-dreſs, we ſhall for the preſent lodge her ſafe in *King's-Place*.

Emily is in ſuch high eſtimation for her beauty, and the gentleneſs of her manners, that ſhe can command almoſt any price: ſhe has more than once refuſed a twenty pound Bank-note, becauſe ſhe did not like the preſenter. A certain rich Jew, who is very fond of Chriſtian fleſh, offered to take her into keeping, and make her a pretty ſettlement; but ſhe has an utter averſion to circumciſion, and refuſed his offer. A certain Lieutenant of Marines, who is not very delicate in his female attachments, and who has already ſold one wife to a rich

Baronet, offered EMILY his hand in an honourable way; but whether ſhe ſuſpected his former wife was ſtill living, or that he was deſirous of alſo putting her up to ſale to the beſt bidder, ſhe declined the match, though the Captain's perſon was far from being diſagreeable to her. Upon the whole, EMILY is a *fille-de-joye* quite out of the common road, and might ſerve as an example to the reſt of her Siſterhood, to preſerve ſome dignity in the exerciſe of their profeſſion.

CHAP.

CHAP. XV.

The History of an innocent young Lady, who was, by the deep-laid Scheme of a certain Abbess, entrapped into her Nunnery. The Plan and Progress pursued for the young Lady's Seduction. A certain Nobleman promises a thousand Guineas if it is brought to bear. She is at length decoyed by BETSY *to be her Confidante; and every possible Method is taken to debauch her Morals, but ineffectually. The Day and Hour of her Sacrifice is appointed. His Lordship's Chair stops at the Door, for the vile Letcher to seize upon the beautiful Victim. She is miraculously rescued from the Jaws of Destruction.*

I CANNOT quit the purlieus of *King*'s-*Place* without relating a story that must make Humanity shudder, and

innocent females tremble. It is a deep-laid ſtratagem of a certain Lady Abbeſs, to obtain a young Lady under the age of fifteen, for a certain libidinous Nobleman, well known for his exploits of a ſimilar kind.—His Lordſhip riding out one day towards Chelſea, obſerved, in a group of young Ladies, who were ſcholars to a celebrated ſchool in that neighbourhood, one whoſe beauty far ſurpaſſed that of all her companions: She was tall, genteel, and graceful; and though very young, her behaviour and manner ſeemed to antedate her age. He was inſtantly ſtruck with her innocent charms; and ordered his ſervant to diſmount and follow them acroſs a field, in order to know the preciſe place of her reſidence; which he ſoon learnt, and ſpeedily returned with the intelligence, and alſo the name of the young Lady

who

who had ſo peculiarly attracted the attention of his Lordſhip.

Upon his return home, his thoughts were totally engaged in meditating the means of obtaining her, for the gratification of his laſcivious paſſions. A thouſand ſchemes, by turns, uſurped the dominion of his mind, and they were ſucceſſively diſcarded; however, he at length hit upon one that he judged would be effectual. This beautiful object of his brutal paſſion ſo completely engroſſed his attention, that he even forgot the buſineſs of the day in a certain Senatorial Aſſembly, where he had received the Premier's mandate to attend as a ſpeechleſs, monoſyllable Lord, and ſay *Aye*, upon a Treaſury-Bench motion. The Houſe was very thin that day, and by ſome accident a ſufficient majority could not be procured, which ſo exaſpe-

rated the Miniſter, that he threatened his Lordſhip, and ſome other of his Myrmidons, with the loſs of their places, for negligence of their duty.

SOLELY wrapt up with the charms of the lovely Miſs M——E, he repaired to a certain Abbeſs in *King's-Place*, to communicate his plan, and require her aſſiſtance in the execution of it. She heard his Lordſhip with attention, but ſaid ſhe did not approve of it, as he was for kidnapping her, and carrying her off by force. Said ſhe, "Your Lordſhip "muſt allow me a few hours to rumi-"nate upon this buſineſs, as it is a mat-"ter of importance, and requires more "than common adroitneſs to be carried "with ſucceſs into execution."—He agreed with her in the juſtneſs of her obſervation, but ſaid he could not brook delay, for every hour was an age, till he

 gained

gained poſſeſſion of the idol of his heart. However, he agreed to defer coming to any final reſolution till the evening, when he returned, full fraught with the expectation of a ſpeedy conſummation.

In the mean while, the Lady Abbeſs had procured a young girl, that nearly reſembled Miſs M——E, as far as ſhe could conjecture, from the deſcription his Lordſhip had given of her, in hopes that ſhe might be lucky enough to make an impreſſion of a ſimilar nature upon him. She was the daughter of a Waſherwoman in the neighbourhood, who had *literally* ſold her to a certain rich Baronet, who occaſionally viſited her; but ſhe might ſtill paſs for a Virgin, as Sir JOHN was not ſuppoſed to have any great knack at penetrating Maidenheads. His Lordſhip returned at the appointed hour, and BETSY COLLINS was introduced to

him; but though she afforded him a temporary solace, she was incapable of eraling the idea of the enchanting Miss M——E, who still reigned the complete empress of his affections.

THE sagacious Matron finding that her project would not succeed in its full extent, now unfolded a new stratagem to him. "You see, my Lord (said she), "that this girl is handsome, and tolera- "bly genteel; that she is sensible, and "has an acute genius; she is entirely at "my devotion. Her friend the Baronet "is out of town, and will not return for "some weeks. I propose giving her a "dancing-master for a few lessons, that "she may throw off her present rusticity; "and then I will take her to this board- "ing-school, and enter her as a boarder, "in quality of my niece. I shall pass "for a Merchant's Widow, and will

"previously

"previouſly take lodgings in the neigh-
"bourhood, at once to give a ſanction
"to the tale, and be at hand to avail
"myſelf of any favourable opportunities
"that may occur. BETSY ſhall, from
"the moment ſhe commences a ſcholar,
"ingratiate herſelf into the good opinion
"of Miſs M——E, and by every poſſi-
"ble attention and aſſiduity, gain her
"friendſhip, and aim at being her confi-
"dante. Theſe previous ſteps being
"taken, I will occaſionally call at the
"ſchool, and ſtrive alſo to gain the
"eſteem of Miſs M——E, by ſuch pre-
"ſents as I may judge will be agreeable
"to her, without offending her delicacy;
"and at the ſame time I ſhall endeavour
"to diſcover her moſt prevailing *pen-*
"*chant*, her hobby-horſe, which I ſhall
"not fail to gratify in its full extent.
"When the buſineſs is ſo far ripe, I ſhall
"inveigle her to town, under ſome

"pretence of pleaſure and amuſement,
"and when I have got her here, there
"is no doubt but I ſhall, by ſome means
"or other, bring her to comply with
"your Lordſhip's moſt ſanguine wiſhes."

His Lordſhip ſtood amazed at the fruitful imagination of this judicious Procureſs: he extolled her project to the ſkies, and ſaid it beat all the politics of Machiavel, or any projector whatever; that it was wonderfully clever, and that it could not, he thought, fail of ſucceſs. Saying this, in the fullneſs of his heart, he pulled out a pocket-book, and preſented her with a five hundred pound note, to carry the buſineſs into execution, ſaying he would make that ſum up a thouſand guineas, upon the accompliſhment of his wiſhes.

No time was now loſt for bringing

the theory of this nefarious ſcheme into practice, BETSY, the very next day, began to enter upon her dancing exerciſes, and in a few days walked a tolerable minuet. Having by this time got rid of her ruſtic gait, her nominal Aunt thought it was time to convey her to the boarding-ſchool, where ſhe was not to commence her noviciate, but to acquit herſelf with the moſt ſubtle dexterity, according to the tutelage of her experienced Miſtreſs.

IN this place I cannot help remarking, that the Fair Sex are far more indebted for their ruin to female friends (*nominal indeed*) than male foes. There is a luſt in a woman who has once loſt her reputation, to bring every other upon a level with herſelf, that her pride may not be hurt with reproach, or upbraided with the voice of ſcandal. I have known inſtances of the moſt deep-laid artifices

to decoy an innocent girl, who plumed herſelf upon her chaſtity, into the toils of infamy, only for the ſatisfaction of having done ſo laudable a deed.—"Aye "(would a certain Lady of ſome rank "in the World of Gallantry ſay), I "thought I ſhould prove ſhe was made "of fleſh and blood, as well as myſelf. "This is one of your Prudes, who faint-"ed at a man's kiſſing her lips, and who "would go into convulſions, if the fineſt "fellow in England dared to kiſs her "hand: but Nature, ſooner or later, "will prevail, and, as GAY ſays, It is "*what we muſt all come to.*"—Thus has many a virtuous young female been debauched by Woman-kind, to convince the world, that a profeſſed *Meſſalina* was as immaculate a character as any of her ſex. But when this *luſt* is added to the *luſt* of gain, it is almoſt ſure to prevail; two ſuch powerful opponents are almoſt

ſure

ſure of prevailing againſt the moſt rigid virtue.—What then muſt be the perilous ſtate of the devoted Miſs M——x? It is time, therefore, that we ſhould return to her, and if poſſible preſerve her from her impending deſtruction.

We will now imagine our worthy Duenna and her ward at —— ——, boarding-ſchool, not a hundred miles from the *King's Road*, Chelſea; and that after complimenting Mrs. —— upon the high reputation her ſchool was held in, an agreement was entered into for Miſs COLLINS's board and learning; that ſhe was to learn French (her father, being a violent Antigallican, would not, during his life-time, permit her to ſtudy that language) improve her dancing, and acquire a proper knowledge of the harpſichord and guittar. The terms demanded were readily agreed to, and Miſs

BETSY

Betsy being introduced into the ſchool, her *Aunt* ſoon deſcried Miſs M——s. She could not refrain from approving his Lordſhip's choice, her figure was ſo ſtrikingly beautiful, and her deportment ſo uncommonly engaging. It immediately occurred to her, that ſhe would be a moſt valuable acquiſition; as, beſides the thouſand guineas ſhe ſhould get from his Lordſhip for her, ſhe judged ſhe ſhould, before ſhe became a ſtale piece, make at leaſt ten thouſand of her.

Betsy Collins was at firſt ſomewhat out of her element in this Seminary, ſo very different from that which ſhe had juſt quitted in *King's-Place*. She found it neceſſary to bridle her tongue, and carefully to avoid uſing many expreſſions that too much reſembled bawdy and ſwearing, which ſhe had caught, as it were by infection, in her late Nunnery.

She

She never failed having plenty of ſweet-meats, with which ſhe conſtantly ſupplied Miſs M——E. Did the latter take a fancy to a ribbon, a fan, or a trinket belonging to BETSY, it immediately became her's. In a word, this politeneſs and ſeeming affection wrought miracles in Miſs COLLINS's behalf, and they were ſo intimate as to be inceſſant companions, and ſoon found means to become bed-fellows. This welcome news ſhe readily communicated to her (nominal) Aunt, who received it with the greateſt ſatisfaction, and immediately paid her Niece a viſit, to give her ſuch uſeful inſtructions as might tend to promote the great buſineſs of her embaſſy. Theſe inſtructions tended to the corruption of Miſs M——E's morals, by teaching her various laſcivious practices, too often uſed by boarding-

ſchool

ſchool young ladies, who, nevertheleſs, think themſelves completely virtuous. But Miſs BETSY's endeavours, in this reſpect, all proved abortive. Miſs M——E was ſhocked at her propoſals and attempts, and threatened never to lie with her again, if ſhe mentioned theſe filthy operations, in which ſhe would fain have had Miſs M——E follow her example.

BETSY found it neceſſary to decline theſe *manœuvres*, or elſe ſhe plainly ſaw ſhe ſhould forfeit Miſs M——E's eſteem, and defeat her own purpoſe: Accordingly, the artful young hypocrite not only diſcontinued theſe practices and attempts, but pretended to have become a Convert to the moral remonſtrances of her bed-fellow; adding, ſhe was completely happy, in having met with ſo amiable a young lady, who had diverted

ed her from thoſe wicked ways, which would, ſhe was now convinced, have tended to her ruin. By theſe artful means, ſhe re-inſinuated herſelf into the good graces of Miſs M——E, and by additional aſſiduities and attentions, repeated preſents and well-timed compliments, ſhe gained a greater dominion than ever over the innocent, unſuſpicious young lady's affections.

It may appear ſurpriſing how his Lordſhip, burning with that violent ardour we have already depicted, ſhould remain ſo long in a ſtate of perfect tranquillity, without urging his female negociator to bring the great buſineſs ſhe was employed in to a ſpeedy concluſion. This, indeed, was not the caſe; for he was inceſſantly endeavouring to prevail upon her to complete the cataſtrophe of this

this cruel drama; but ſhe appeaſed him, by telling him the plot would be perfectly ripe in a few days.

THE natal day of his Majeſty was the period fixed on for this ſacrifice. In the morning the worthy Abbeſs called upon her Niece, in a new equipage and ſplendid liveries, to bring her to town, and ſee the Nobility at Court. Miſs M——E was earneſtly intreated to be of the party, and her Governante readily conſented to her making this trip to town with her favourite BETSY.

AFTER they had been ſpectators of the pageants of the day, BETSY's worthy Aunt recollected, ſhe had a particular acquaintance in the neighbourhood, with whom ſhe could be ſo free as to take a dinner. The young ladies by this time (it being near four o'clock,

and

and their uſual dinner-time being two) had no great cauſe for much intreaty upon the occaſion, as their juvenile appetites were ſufficient advocates upon the occaſion. They accordingly repaired—Whither? To *King's-Place*, the Abbeſs's own Nunnery. A ſplendid repaſt was prepared, and Miſs M——E evinced her approbation by the attention ſhe paid to it. The choiceſt wines were on the ſideboard, and afterwards on the table.—Quick libations to the regal health, and an uncommon flow of ſpirits, made Miſs M——E give more into the hilarity of the table, than ever ſhe had done before in her life; and in the preſent conviviality of her diſpoſition, aided by muſic and ſinging, and every poſſible auxiliary to obliterate reflexion, ſhe yielded to intreaties ſo far, as to let Champaigne ſuſpend her reaſon.

THE

THE hour now approached for his Lordſhip's arrival, and every circumſtance ſeemed to ſtrew the way over with flowers for his triumphal entry: But Providence ſeemed to interfere, in the moſt critical moment of Miſs M——E's life.

SHE had a couſin who was an Enſign in the Guards, and who, like moſt young gentlemen in that line of life, gave in to the foibles and diſſipation of the times: In a word, he occaſionally viſited the Nunneries in *King's-Place*. He had been, too, drinking a few goblets extraordinary to his Sovereign's health; and the generous wine had ſo far operated, as to warm his youthful blood, too prone to amorous dalliance, and make him wander into this very houſe. Being introduced, through miſtake, into the

the parlour where Miſs M—E was aſleep on a ſopha, he no ſooner beheld her, than he exclaimed,—"Heavens, what "do I ſee, my ſweet angelic couſin—my "dear Miſs M——E, in ſuch a place!" The familiarity of his voice awakened her—ſhe ſcreamed, and fainted; but ſhe was ſoon recovered to her ſenſes. "My "dear life (ſaid he), this is no time for "explanations—you muſt come with me "this inſtant." Saying this, he made her immediately huddle on her cloak, and taking her under his arm, conducted her to a coach, and conveyed her to her father's in Bond-Street.

As they paſſed the threſhold, his Lordſhip's chair had juſt ſtopt at the door, and one of his chairmen was on the point of ringing the bell.

THIS ſtory, which is genuine, and can

can be well authenticated, requires no comment. Let it be a caution to all ſchool-miſtreſſes, governantes, and the fair-ſex in general, how they truſt their pupils or themſelves into company, even female company, without the moſt authentic vouchers of their characters, or before the moſt rigid inquiry into their purſuits, connexions, and morals.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVI.

A ſhort Diſſertation upon Long Corks; or the Origin, Progreſs, and Advantages of Cork Rumps, illuſtrated with many curious, critical and capricious Adventures in high, low, and middling Life.

LOVEJOY! What a happy name for amuſement, pleaſure, bliſs! In thy manſion ſurely they muſt all be lodged! Even the blind Goddeſs herſelf one would think incapable of removing them! But alas! ſuch are the tranſient movements of this world, the viciſſitudes of life, though but a ſpan, that there is ſcarce ſecurity even in ſecurity itſelf. The moſt perfect beatitude this mundane ball affords, is but a ſpaſm, a convulſion of nature, which, were it of long

long duration, would be too violent for the human frame to ſupport. So LOVEJOY—ill-fated LOVEJOY was but the gewgaw of an hour, the toy of wanton Females, the rattle of riotous Rakes.—A Bankrupt!—But ſome ſolace may be ſtill at hand; for MURPHY in his *Citizen* tells us, that a Commiſſion of Bankruptcy is the beſt Commiſſion his Majeſty has in his gift: and who can diſpute the authority, when this opinion was pronounced by a Commiſſioner of Bankrupts himſelf?

THE failure of LOVEJOY made the whole Garden re-echo with its moans. How many hundred *magnum bonums* have here been toaſted to the Cyprian Goddeſs and all her attributes! Not a crevice of her charms was e'er forgot; and whether it was the lovely HARRIOT or the ſprightly CHARLOTTE that preſided for the

the evening, the Paphian Queen ſtill prevailed, and her votaries bowed to her ſhrine. It is a maxim that has long prevailed, and ever will, That good often ariſes from evil; and never was it more forcibly proved, than in the misfortunes of our friend LOVEJOY. To the accident of his breaking, are we indebted for one of the moſt curious and uſeful inventions that have done honour to the preſent age. Many of the moſt valuable diſcoveries have been made by chance. Gunpowder was invented by a Prieſt who was in ſearch of the philoſopher's ſtone; and the origin of printing caſually fell to the lot of a ſoldier; but it was left for the great and ingenious Mr. TAPE, of *Taviſtock-Street*, to inſtitute the noble, ornamental, and ineſtimable deſign of CORK RUMPS!

Mr. TAPE, in purchaſing a lot at

Lovejoy's ſale, found himſelf unexpectedly in poſſeſſion of ſix dozen of Mrs. Allan's Long Corks. He was puzzled to gueſs to what uſe he could apply them:—he had no *magnum bonums* to ſtop with them, his Wine Cellar, to ſpeak in the Iriſh phraſeology, conſiſting of nothing but half a kilderkin of ſour ſmall beer. But as it was an invariable rule with Mr. Tape, to turn every thing to his advantage, and never let any opportunity ſlip of profiting even by accidents; whilſt he and his dear ſpouſe were laying their heads together upon their pillows, a thought came into Mr. Tape's noddle, that theſe ſame Corks might be converted to ſome uſe.—"'Faith, my "dear," ſaid he, "I have it," giving her a ſlap *a poſteriori:* "What do you think "of a Cork Rump?"—"Think!" (ſhe replied, ſomewhat nettled at the pungent

applica-

application of his hand) "I think it would "have been a very useful thing just "then, and preserved me from that vio-"lent spank." "I beg your pardon, "my dear," he rejoined: "I was so ela-"ted with the lucky thought, that I "really forgot myself; but I do not "know, whether the making of my for-"tune and that smack did not go hand "in hand." "If that is the case," she resumed, "I should not have minded, if "you had hit me two smacks, and made "mine and your own fortune at the "same time."

This dialogue being ended, Mr. Tape jumped out of bed, hurried on his clothes, dived into the cellar, brought up the cargo of corks, set to work, and in a few hours produced a perfect Cork Rump, fit for a first-rate Lady of Fashion of almost any dimensions whatever. In

the afternoon it was exhibited at the ſhop window, and Mrs. BADDELEY paſſing by, took a fancy to it, imagining it would be a great improvement to the gentility of her perſon, purchaſed it, and exhibited that very night in it upon the ſtage.

SUCH is the origin of Cork Rumps; let us now conſider their property, I might ſay virtue, utility, and advantage. No ſooner had Mrs. BADDELEY diſplayed the elegance of this new and uſeful invention, than at leaſt a dozen Ladies of the firſt rank ſent to her, and requeſted the favour to know where ſhe had made that valuable purchaſe. She readily gave the neceſſary information, and in a few hours *Taviſtock-Street* was crowded from one end to the other with Ladies carriages, who were extremely anxious to be perfectly well cork-rumped. Lady

H—TON

H——TON was corked in the twinkling of an eye; but she found fault that the Corks were not longer, and large enough for her *calibre:* however, she made shift for the present with it, till Mr. TAPE could supply himself with Corks of more proper dimensions for her Ladyship. Lady L——IER, Lady BUN—Y, the Marchioness of C———N, Lady BRIDGET, Lady D—BY, and the Duchess of D—E were all corked in one day; and though Lady H———N had pronounced the Corks *monstrously small*, they sat very tight upon every one of them, except Lady L——R and Lady B—B—Y. Miss BR———N no sooner discovered the improvement the Ladies Rumps had received from this happy invention, than she flew with her Combustible Lover to the spot, and equipped herself perfectly to her satisfaction with the only one that was left from LOVEJOY's stock of

Long Corks! Had ſhe come five minutes later, ſhe would have had the inſupportable mortification of ſeeing Mrs. BA—Y corked before her.

BESIDES the advantages derived from a Cork Rump, with reſpect to elegance and ornament, far more ſubſtantial benefits may accrue from them. Two young Ladies, laſt ſummer, narrowly eſcaped from drowning, as they were going to Vauxhall by water; owing entirely to their being equipt with Cork Rumps from Mr. TAPE's Manufactory, which proved their utility far ſuperior to the ſkill of the Medical Society inſtituted for the Recovery of Drowned Perſons, as they have often failed in their deſign; but upon this and every other ſimilar occaſion, the wearers of Cork Rumps have been invariably ſecured

from the fatal effects of the aqueous element.

To this valuable invention may the beautiful and chaſte Miſs G——N aſcribe her ſecurity from the dangerous and critical attack of Colonel M——s. She was perſuaded by this Gentleman to take a trip, *tête-à-tête*, to Richmond; he having till then paid his addreſſes to her in an honourable way, and never given her the leaſt grounds to ſuſpect his ſincerity: but having now got her entirely, as he thought, at his devotion, as ſhe would not ſurrender at diſcretion, he without farther ceremony ſwore, that he would no longer be her dangler, and would ſeize that by force which ſhe would not yield to him voluntarily. He had tumbled her upon the carpet, and was making ſuch preparations as plainly indicated that tears and intreaties would be

of no avail to preſerve her virtue; when, fortunately, her Cork Rump ſerved as a barrier to his aſſaults, and kept him ſo long at bay, that he was not able to attack her with that vigour which was neceſſary to accompliſh his deſign. Finding himſelf thus fruſtrated in his intention, he curſed his ſtars and Cork Rumps, hurried down ſtairs, and left Miſs G——N as immaculate as he had found her.

If, after this, the Reader will not agree in the opinion, that Cork Rumps are greatly ornamental, and peculiarly uſeful to the Ladies in the moſt perilous caſes, we ſhall conclude that he has been in a predicament ſimilar to that of Colonel M——s; and that from revenge and reſentment only, he has become an infidel againſt his own conviction. For our part, we ſhall for ever admire

admire the inventive genius of Mr. TAPE, and consider the virtues of a *Long Cork* to extend far beyond a *magnum bonum* of Mrs. ALLAN's best claret.

CHAP. XVII.

Sketch of an extraordinary Black Character, which has made ſome Noiſe in the World. His Origin, with the Cauſe of his adopting the Name of a certain great Prince. His good Fortune in England. Is patronized by a certain Ducheſs, who gives him a polite Education. Rolls in his Chariot. His Succeſs with the Fair Sex; and a very curious Adventure at Greenwich.

EVERY one who has been only upon the *ſurface* of the *Ton* for the laſt ſeven years, muſt have noticed a very extraordinary perſonage parading the ſtreets of this Town, in an elegant equipage, ſervants in ſuperb liveries, and drawn by fine dun horſes. "Who is "this?" cries Mr. JULEP, who thought he

he probably would, notwithſtanding his complexion, get a faſhionable complaint; and that he might find ſome means of introducing himſelf at leaſt as an Apothecary, if not in the Chirurgical line. "Why, Mrs. GAD, I'll tell "you who he is: it is not Omiah; no, "nor the Prince of—of—Oronooko, "who was here ſome years ago:—he is a "Prince of Ana—Ana—maboe, who is "come here to make peace or war with "the *Premier*, and the reſt of the great "folks, for not having properly pro-"tected his father's Forts and Settle-"ments. Remember the ſtory of *Zan-"ga*, and we muſt tremble."—"I know "nothing of the ſtory of *Zanga* (ſaid "Mrs. GAD), but I don't like his ap-"pearance here at this very critical "time. All ſtrangers ſhould give a very "particular account of themſelves, eſpe-"cially when their complexions are

"so different from ours. I never see a "very swarthy man, who appears to be "a foreigner, but I think he has some "dark design: what then must I think "of a Black, Prince or not Prince, dress- "ed so fine, and riding about in such "a grand equipage?"—"Pshaw, Mrs. "GAD, I can assure you his designs are "very friendly; and it is our interest "to cultivate, through him, the friend- "ship of his father; the only danger is, "we should slight his friendly offers, "and excite him, through revenge, to "follow the example of the Americans, "and join the French."—The matter was thus settled, to their mutual satisfaction.

BUT what would you think, Reader, if after this he turned out an European Black Prince; and, what is still more extraordinary, a Prince of France! The

name

name of S—SE is known all over the world; he was a little tanned in the wars in Flanders; but our present Prince here has, if we are not much ill informed, somewhat tarnished his reputation, if not his complexion, in the wars of VENUS, even in this Metropolis.

To be serious; This extraordinary character is neither more nor less than the son of a servant of the Prince of S—SE, who, having a regard for the fidelity of his Negro domestic, stood, by proxy, godfather to his son, and gave him his own name. Some time since they came over to England, to better their station in some noble family. Young S——SE, who at this time had no pretensions higher than common servitude, applied himself to the French Horn, as a farther recommendation to favour. However, his father having obtained a place in the

house

houſe of a certain deceaſed Ducheſs, and his ſon being admitted with him, by ſome ſtrange whim, ſhe took a particular fancy to the boy, and inſtead of letting him remain in a menial capacity, placed him at a celebrated Academy near Soho-Square, where he learnt dancing, fencing, and riding the great horſe. He was now upon the verge of manhood, and having made a conſiderable progreſs in his ſtudies, began to think he was ſuperior to the common run of Macaronies, and treated them with contempt accordingly. Some of them reſented theſe perſonal inſults; but having heard of his dexterity at the ſword, they declined coming to extremities, and *Mungo* almoſt ever came off with triumph. Add to this ſuperiority over the common run of the puppies of the age, that his talents and genius had now ſo far ingratiated him into the good graces of the Ducheſs,

that

that ſhe not only amply ſupplied his pocket with caſh, but abſolutely gave him a chariot for his own uſe.

Thus equipped, we may ſuppoſe that *Mungo* indulged in all the gaiety and extravagance of the Town. His face was very well known in the Fleſh-market at the Play-houſes; he conſtantly frequented the Maſquerades at the Pantheon and Cornelys', where he has very naturally, and much in character, played the part of *Mungo*, by which name he was afterwards called. He was ſoon initiated at all the Nunneries in *King's Place* and the New Buildings; and the Nuns have frequently done him the honour of taking an airing in his carriage in Hyde-Park and elſewhere. Hence we may eaſily conclude, that his viſits were not merely of the Platonic kind.—No; his ſoul was too

much made of fire, and he was one of the Children of the Sun; his conſtitution was full as warm as his complexion, and the annals of *King*'s-*Place* ſay, that he revelled at large amidſt the charms of variegated beauty; nay, notwithſtanding his complexion, there was ſcarce a Nun in thoſe Seminaries who did not think it an honour to be diſtinguiſhed by the Prince De S——SE. Mrs. L—W—GT—N, Miſs B—T—N, Miſs K—G, Miſs H—PH—YS, Miſs K——Y, and even Miſs EMILY C—LTH—ST *herſelf*, thought it no diſhonour to have yielded to the intreaties of his Highneſs. His pocket was always well repleniſhed; his carriage was always at their ſervice; and the Ladies gave him the beſt of characters for his manly *parts* and *abilities*. Such partialities could not fail of recommending him powerfully, eſpecially to thoſe *Filles-de-joye* whoſe ſole views

views are centered in lucre, and never conſider either the ſize, complexion, age, or infirmities of their admirers: Beſides, *Mungo*, if he had not beauty, had at leaſt youth and vigour on his ſide, and was very genteelly conſtructed. Is it then ſurpriſing, that, in imitation of DESDEMONA, they ſhould give the preference to another OTHELLO, before many other inſipid, debilitated Lovers?

BUT MUNGO's ambitious ſoul ſoared higher than mere *Grizettes*: there is a ſtory told of him, which, however, we do not pretend to verify, though it has been circulated with much aſſiduity. But, to illuſtrate ſtill farther his character, we ſhall give this adventure, which is ſaid to have occurred in the Eaſter holidays, near Blackheath. Miſs S——t, a Lady well known in the purlieus of Greenwich, went with her confidential

fidential maid, in diſguiſe, to partake of the *innocent* diverſions of the roly-poly pleaſantry down the hill, in Greenwich Park. They met with MUNGO and his companion, who paſſed for ſea-officers, and ſaid they had juſt returned from a long and advantageous voyage, with their pockets well filled with caſh, and their powers of virility, as the painters ſay, in *fine keeping*. Miſs S —— was willing to puſh the frolic as far as ſhe could with *decency*, and gratify her curioſity and inclination with one of MUNGO's complexion; her Abigail did not care if ſhe was in the meſs, as the Prince's companion was a comely young fellow, juſt in his prime; and, accordingly, ſhe perſuaded her Miſtreſs to repair to the *Greyhound*, where a *cold entertainment* was ſerved, that was afterwards ſucceeded by a *very warm one*; which was ſo well approved of, that

the

the Fair-ones thought a ſecond, aye and a third edition would no way cloy their ſtomachs. The Heroes, not knowing who their lovely enamoratoes were, pulled out their purſes, and offered them handſome preſents; but theſe were peremptorily refuſed; and, to their great aſtoniſhment, when the bill was called, it was all diſcharged by the Ladies. After they retired, MUNGO and his friend's curioſity were much excited, to know into what good company they had got, when, to their no ſmall aſtoniſhment, they learnt from the waiter, that they were Miſs S——R and her maid, in diſguiſe. This affair made ſome noiſe at Greenwich; and it was rumoured, that a *ſooty young Premier* might in a few months be expected in town.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVIII.

S——se resolves to pay his Addreſſes in form, to a Lady of Beauty, Rank and Fortune. He previouſly endeavours to improve his Fortune in an extraordinary Way. His apparent Succeſs. A very curious Letter. The Effect; and a ſtill more curious Anſwer. The Conſequence. Terminates with a truly laughable Scene, at the Pantheon *Maſquerade.*

THIS adventure had ſo far inflated Mungo's vanity, that he began to think he had ſufficient merit and accompliſhments to entitle him to a woman of fortune and faſhion, in an honourable way. He was, however, conſcious, notwithſtanding his late good fortune in *King*'s *Place* and at *Greenwich*, that his complexion was a few tinges too dark; and

and from reading in the News-papers ſo many advertiſements of coſmetics and noſtrums, not only for the renovating of beauty, but even the creation of it, as well as complexions, he was ſo little a Sceptic, as to begin to think he had been highly neglectful in not improving his charms, as he ſeriouſly believed they could *ſecundum artem* waſh a Blackamoor white. He accordingly read over, with much attention, all the puffs that are obtruded upon the Public in the Prints, and reſolved to ſpare no pains of becoming *a pretty fellow tout enſemble*.

HAVING laid in what he judged a proper ſtock of waſhes, coſmetics, and other beautifying medicines, he began ſeriouſly to ſet to work upon this arduous buſineſs. The firſt week flattered him with great hopes of ſucceſs; it being a compoſition of a very corroſive nature,

nature, raiſed a kind of ſcurf upon his ſkin, which made him fancy this was the firſt ſtage upon his road to beauty. So elated was he with this expectation, that he did not heſitate a moment writing a very curious billet to the Honourable Miſs G——, a celebrated toaſt, with a fortune of 30,000l. There is at once a *naiveté* and impudence in this Letter, that may excite the Reader's curioſity.

"DEAR MISS,

"I HAVE often beheld you in public "with rapture; indeed it is impoſſible "to view you without ſuch emotions as "muſt animate every man of ſentiment. "In a word, Madam, you have ſeized "my heart, and I dare tell you I am "your *Negro Slave*. You ſtartle at this "expreſſion, Madam; but I love to be "ſincere. I am of that ſwarthy race of

"ADAM,

"ADAM, whom ſome deſpiſe on ac-
"count of their complexion; but I be-
"gin to find from experience, that even
"this trial of our patience may laſt but
"for a time, as Providence has given
"ſuch knowledge to Man, as to remedy
"all the evils of this life. There is not
"a diſorder under the ſun which may
"not, by the ſkill and induſtry of the
"learned, be removed: ſo do I find,
"that ſimilar applications in the re-
"ſearches of medicine, have brought
"to bear ſuch diſcoveries, as to remove
"the tawny hue of any complexion, if
"applied with ſkill and perſeverance.
"In this purſuit, my dear Miſs, I am
"reſolutely engaged, and hope, in a
"few weeks, I may be able to throw
"myſelf at your feet, in as agreeable a
"form as you can deſire; in the mean

"time,

"time, believe me with the greateſt ſin-
"cerity,
"Your's moſt devotedly,
"My Lovely Angel,
"S——SE."

THIS very extraordinary Epiſtle had a very whimſical and riſible effect upon Miſs G——. She received it whilſt ſhe was at tea with a very particular confidante. Before ſhe read it half through, ſhe could not refrain from burſting out into ſuch a loud laugh, as made her friend involuntarily do the ſame, without knowing the cauſe; and the footman, who was in waiting, was ſeized with the ſame riſible convulſion, in ſpite of biting his lips almoſt through. When this extraordinary contagious convulſion, which often communicates itſelf like gaping, was over,

over, Miſs W——MS aſked Miſs G—— what it was that could operate ſo forcibly upon her riſible muſcles? Upon which ſhe ſaid, throwing her the letter, "Refrain from laughing, if you can." Upon the peruſal of it, the laugh was tenfold more than before; and the ſervant was compelled to go out of the room, for fear of an urinary accident.

AFTER they had exhauſted the whole ſtock of laughter in their preſent poſſeſſion, they began to conſult how they could ſufficiently ridicule ſo impertinent, ſo vain, ſo preſumptuous a *Black*, in every ſenſe of the word. "Come (ſaid "Miſs W—MS), give me pen, ink, and "paper; I will have the firſt touch at "the Mooriſh Prince, and I do not "doubt but you will be able much to "improve upon it." Saying this, and

the pen, ink, and paper being produced, ſhe wrote as follows:

"May it pleaſe your Highneſs,

"THE unexpected honour you have "vouchſafed to do me is juſt come to "hand; and I find that female vanity, "which is ſo predominant in us, cannot "reſiſt the firſt impulſe of acknowledg-"ing myſelf too far tranſported to "write with that coolneſs I could wiſh. "Indeed your Highneſs muſt be blind "(pardon the expreſſion) to have view-"ed me in a favourable point of light; "but yet I will cheriſh the thought; my "ambition is too highly concerned in "it; and I frankly tell you, that your "Highneſs cannot too early come and "ſeize a hand, where you have already "made a conqueſt of a heart. I hope "this will find your complexion entirely "reconciled to your wiſh. As to me, I

"acknowledge

" acknowledge a Black man was always
" the favourite of my affections; and
" that I never yet ſaw either OROONOKO
" or OTHELLO without rapture. But leſt
" you could imagine I have not in every
" reſpect your warmeſt wiſhes at heart,
" I have incloſed a little packet*(ſome of
" which I uſe myſelf when I go to a
" Maſquerade), which will have the de-
" ſired effect, in caſe your noſtrums
" ſhould fail. Apply it, I beſeech you,
" inſtantly, that I may have the pleaſure
" of ſeeing you as ſoon as poſſible. Thus
" languiſhing for the happineſs of telling
" you, by word of mouth, how much I
" adore you, believe me
" Moſt devotedly yours,
" G——."

No ſooner had Miſs W——MS penned this billet, which ſhe did in a few

* A parcel of Carmine, and Pearl Powder.

minutes, than ſhe read it to Miſs G—; who could not help admiring the readineſs of her imagination, and the acuteneſs of her irony; but ſhe was fearful that MUNGO would not have penetration ſufficient to ſee it in that point of view, and taking it in a ſerious light, might torment her with his ridiculous and impertinent viſits. But upon Miſs W—MS ſaying, ſhe would take the whole upon herſelf, and receive him maſked, in the character of Miſs G—, the latter conſented to diſpatch the billet, with the contents. This thought engendered another, which was to go to the next Pantheon maſquerade, and have a ſtill more complete revenge upon the Prince in perſon.

LET us now look to the unfortunate S——SE, who no ſooner received this

reply, than he was ſtung to the ſoul with the poignancy of its ſatire; and what provoked him ſtill more was, that being then in company with his truſty *Greenwich* friend, to whom he had not yet communicated the deſigned alteration of his complexion; and having unguardedly ſhewn him the Lady's letter and contents; his companion was ſo tickled with S——SE's folly and impertinence on the one hand, and the ſarcaſtic reply on the other, that he ſeemed too to have caught the infection from the Ladies, and could not reſiſt the impulſe they ſo forcibly had upon his riſible muſcles.

THIS behaviour in his friend threw S——SE into convulſions; he burnt the letter and its contents; then fetching his coſmetics and noſtrums, threw them into

the fire alſo; he next threw himſelf upon the ſopha in agonies of deſpair, curſing all the ſex, and adding, there was no friendſhip in the world.

His companion was ſtruck at this expreſſion, for two reaſons: firſt, becauſe he did not intend to offend S——se on the one hand, and on the other, he was in a great meaſure dependant on him. He therefore judged it prudent to endeavour to afford him ſome ſolace in his preſent affliction; and knowing that nothing gave him ſo much ſatisfaction as a maſquerade, informed him there was to be one the next evening at the Pantheon; and that if it was agreeable, they would then go and chuſe their dreſſes, that they might have the preference. The very mention of a maſquerade cheered up his heart, and diſbanded every diſagreeable idea. We will now ſup-

poſe

poſe them gone upon this errand, and by the next evening they are equipt for the occaſion: We will alſo ſuppoſe, that Miſs G— and Miſs W—MS were not idle upon the occaſion.

S——SE happened to chuſe the dreſs of a Sultan, and by ſome accident Miſs G— fixed upon that of a Sultana: They were both ſplendid, and attracted the attention of the whole Rotunda. No ſooner had Miſs G— caſt her eyes upon S——SE, than ſhe knew him by the diſcoveries made through the apertures of his maſk. The elegance of her figure, added to the ſumptuouſneſs of her dreſs, ſoon made him accoſt her, as his favourite Sultana of the night.

NOTHING could have more happily occurred, for the diſplay of her raillery. Upon his ſaying ſome civil things to her,

and amongſt others, that he had dropped his handkerchief to her; ſhe bid him ſtand off, he was an impoſtor—ſhe could perceive he was only a black Eunuch in diſguiſe; that ſhe ſhould acquaint the Grand Signior of the indignity offered his Sublime Highneſs by ſuch a wretch, and have him flayed: "But," added ſhe, in another tone of voice, "that may "be an attempt you have already made "upon yourſelf, in order to promote a "farther diſguiſe; in that caſe, I would "ſend you ſome of my own coſmetics, "that you may not make too horrid an "appearance in the Seraglio for human "eyes to behold!"

S——se could bear no more—there were daggers in every word; they pierced to the ſoul; he retired precipitately, and has never ſince had the leaſt reliſh for a maſquerade.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIX.

Account of the Nunnery in Curzon-Street, May-Fair. *Some Deſcription of Mrs.* B—NKS, *and her different Nuns. Sketches of ſome of her Viſitors. Hiſtory of* MARIA BR—N, *a* Thais *well known upon the* HAUT TON.

WE have remained long enough in the purlieus of *King's-Place*; let us now make a ſhort excurſion to *Curzon-Street, May-Fair*. Here reſided the intelligent, aſſiduous and polite Mrs. B—NKS, who having ſenſibility enough to know, that ſhe had not charms ſufficient to captivate every beholder, reſolved to turn thoſe talents to advantage, with which Nature had endowed her, and to make the beauty and allurements of the reſt of her ſex beneficial to herſelf.

To this end, ſhe ſought the acquaintance of every handſome Demi-rep about town. Thoſe who were affluent, and only wanted to gratify their amorous paſſions, could, through the agency of this Lady, always be ſupplied with ſuch ſtout and athletic Riding-maſters, as never failed giving the ſtrongeſt proofs of their knowledge and abilities. For thoſe who were in indigence, and were compelled to make a ſale of their charms, ſhe had always a conſtant market, and the beſt cuſtomers within the purlieus of *St. James's*. CHARLOTTE HAYES had long been her tutoreſs, having ſerved a regular apprenticeſhip to that Lady, and under whom ſhe afterwards moved in the more elevated ſtation of aſſiſtant and counſellor upon every critical and important occaſion. In a word, having ſaved a ſum of money in this laudable vocation, ſhe thought it time

time to commence Abbeſs upon her own foundation; and accordingly took a genteel houſe in *Curzon Street*. CLARA HAY—D made her firſt public appearance in this Seminary, though ſhe afterwards repaired to CHARLOTTE's. Miſs M—D—S was the next upon the liſt of her Nuns, who was celebrated for her tranſcendant charms, which were ſo great as to captivate the learned Dr. B—K—S. Miſs Sally H—DS—N was third upon the liſt, and was ſo prudent and œconomical, that ſhe ſaved about two hundred pounds, and propoſed ſoon taking a Nunnery of her own. The turbulent Mrs. C—x we find alſo upon Mrs. B—KS's liſt. Her connexions with a young Scotch ſon of Mars, enables her in other reſpects to pick and chuſe her company; and ſhe bullies any man who offers her leſs than five guineas. Another Caledonian gentleman, who has been diſ-

tinguiſhed in the literary world upon political topics, is here alſo a conſtant viſitor; and it was at firſt imagined, that Mrs. C——x was the object of his attention: but this error was ſoon rectified, by its plainly appearing that Mrs. B—NKS alone engroſſes all his affections, and reigns Empreſs of his heart, notwithſtanding her homely viſage, and leſs graceful figure; he declaring, ſhe has that *je neſçai quoi* about her, that no man of ſenſe can reſiſt. Miſs BETSEY ST—NS—N acts in the capacity of one of the Siſterhood, when there is a great run of buſineſs, and nobody elſe in the way, rather than diſappoint a cuſtomer, or drive him to another Nunnery; but her general vocation is that of aſſiſtant to Mrs. B—KS, in which capacity ſhe diſplays great knowledge and induſtry. Indeed the fatigue of action in this double ſtation, generally induces her to make a retreat

retreat in the Summer-ſeaſon to one of the Watering-places, for the benefit of bathing, and bracing up her relaxed frame. Mrs. W—LS—N indulges herſelf ſo much in the gratifications of the table, that ſhe has attained that *embon point* that is rather ungraceful; but her pretty eyes, and pouting lips, ſtill command admirers, and her ſize to ſome cuſtomers is far from being diſagreeable. Mrs. BR—N, generally known by the denomination of *The Conſtable*, being an excellent mould for grenadiers, ſhould be penſioned by Government for recruiting his M—y's forces. Mrs. F—GS—N, the laſt upon this liſt, is a very uſeful hand; ſhe never ſays Nay to any thing, or any body.—Be he Jew or Gentile, brown or fair, ſhort or tall, crooked or ſtraight, it matters not, if his money is not light; as ſhe conſtantly carries a pair of

of ſcales in her pocket for weighing gold, and thereby never is impoſed upon. It is to this Lady that we are indebted for the Print at the ſhops, repreſenting a Lady of eaſy virtue weighing a Buck's light guinea; and a good likeneſs is preſerved in the portrait. Notwithſtanding the great variety of admirers ſhe has had of almoſt all Nations, and every complexion, her amorous paſſions are not abſorbed; as a certain tall, broad-backed Iriſh gentleman can teſtify, who figures away in public upon her bounty. It is true, he is compelled to do hard duty, as nobody who knows Mrs. F—GS—N can diſpute, that (to uſe her own phraſe) "When ſhe gets "in her arms the man ſhe likes, *elle s'a-* "*bandonne tout a-fait.*" MARIA BR—N has juſt now engaged in the Seminary. As there is ſomething curious in her ſtory, the reader will not, probably, be diſ-

pleaſed

pleaſed to meet with it here. This Lady was the daughter of a Builder near *Marybone*, and was reputed to be a fortune of ten thouſand pounds. MARIA was a tall, genteel girl, and had received a tolerable education, which was not thrown away upon her. No ſooner had ſhe attained that age which inſpires every female with thoughts of the male ſex, than ſhe appeared in all public places. With a heart prone to love and amorous dalliance, ſhe found herſelf much embarraſſed to parry the many attacks that were made upon her from the gay, the giddy, the artful and the witty: Add to this, that ſhe had made acquaintance with one of thoſe dangerous females, who, by ſtill preſerving the appearance of chaſtity, are admitted into decent company, tho' ſtrongly ſuſpected by the prying eye of Curioſity. A party was made to Windſor, in which was a certain man of

rank, whom ſhe imagined was paying his addreſſes in an honourable way; but he having diſcovered, through her female friend, that old Br—n would not part with a farthing till his death, had veered about, and planted his battery againſt her virtue inſtead of her heart. In this party ſhe was betrayed by her confidential acquaintance, who rallied her upon her fears of being left alone with the man who ſhe was ſo ſoon to call her huſband. Betrayed into this opinion, ſhe liſtened to his fond tale, and yielded to his ſolicitations, imagining her condeſcenſion but a prelude to their nuptials. But alas! a ſhort time after convinced her of the miſtake.—With what agitation of mind, what mortification, what remorſe, did ſhe, in print, read his marriage with another! Oh Reader, if thou art a female, I leave thee to thine own ſenſations.

Some

Some time elapsed before she could surmount her affliction; but finding there was no likelihood of any fruits of this amour being visible, she consoled herself with having detected the perfidy of her pretended female friend.

Mr. W——ms, a gentleman in easy circumstances, some time after paid his addresses to her, and would with sincerity have given her his hand, if her father would have advanced a sum equal to what his fortune entitled him to; but at the very critical period when this negociation had been brought nearly to an issue, Mr. Br——n relenting from his former rigour, he became a bankrupt, and all her imaginary fortune proved a bubble. Mr. W——ms had gone such lengths in soliciting her hand, that tho' prudence would not permit him to pro-

secute

ſecute his ſuit in an honourable way, he could not ſo ſufficiently ſurmount his paſſion for MARJA, as to avoid yielding to the tempting bait that now preſented itſelf, of making propoſals of a leſs delicate kind, which he judged would be accepted. Upon the firſt hint of this kind, ſhe reſented it with great warmth, and upbraided him in the ſtrongeſt terms with his perfidy. He was prepared for theſe attacks, and therefore they did not diſmay him, or divert him from his purpoſe. Neceſſity at length compelled MARIA to yield at diſcretion, and a ſhort time pronounced her pregnant, and ſhe at a due period gave the world a ſon.

MR. W—MS's fondneſs, from this, did not in the leaſt abate; but, on the contrary, was much increaſed. After ſhe recovered, ſhe appeared in public with

as

as much eclat as ever; for having laid-in privately, the ſecret was pretty well preſerved. Sir CHARLES B——Y joined her one evening at *Ranelagh*, ſoon after he diſcovered his own Lady's infidelities; and thinking Mrs. BR—WN, we will now call her, a very agreeable, as well as beautiful woman, began to find himſelf greatly intereſted in her behalf, and judged ſhe would afford him infinite ſolace for the loſs of his perfidious wife. Her pride was ſtimulated by ſuch a conqueſt, and ſhe thought a juſt revenge was due to W—MS, for having taken the advantage of her diſtreſs. In a word, ſhe yielded to Sir CHARLES, who for ſome time teſtified his generoſity, as well as his fondneſs. W——MS detected her infidelity, and deſerted her; Sir CHARLES's attachment was not of much longer date. Thus ſituated, a

ſhort

ſhort time reduced her to the neceſſity of making ſome other proviſion for her ſupport. Mrs. B—ks met with her at this critical period, and eaſily prevailed upon MARIA to become a lodger in her houſe. Such was the ſtate of this Nunnery, when we laſt viſited it: What revolutions it has ſince undergone, we may relate in ſome future Chapter.

CHAP.

CHAP. XX.

The Cataſtrophe—or, the Force of Love, exemplified in a Chriſtian Preacher, and a Jewiſh Enamorato. A Wild-Gooſe Chace through Europe, *in Purſuit of a more contemptible Animal—a profeſſed Jilt. A ſhort Dialogue upon Long and Little Tails*, &c. &c.

Love mounts, and rolls about my ſtormy mind,
Like clouds driven by a tempeſtuous wind.

SO ſays the Bard; yet we are inſtructed by a great Author, that Vanity is the predominant paſſion in both ſexes; however, from the following true, but melancholy relation, Love will ſeem to have the aſcendency over all the other paſſions.

THE intelligent Reader is ere now in poſſeſſion of moſt of the circumſtances of the dreadful cataſtrophe that terminated the life of the unfortunate Miſs RAY, and the mortal career of the wretched Mr. HACKMAN; but there are ſome particulars which may be novel, and we ſhall relate them, as they tend to introduce a ſett of Characters that are equally celebrated and extraordinary.

MR. HACKMAN had, doubtleſs, a very violent paſſion for Miſs RAY; and thinking himſelf ſlighted and contemned, he committed the horrid deed for which he juſtly ſuffered; but whether he conſidered Mr. M——A as his rival or not, does not yet ſeem teſtified. He thought, moſt certainly, that Miſs RAY treated him with coolneſs and indifference, if ſhe had not given the preference to another admirer; but the Reader may not

not be informed of what gave riſe to this jealouſy, ſuſpicion, and reſentment. Lord S. had baniſhed him from his houſe, where heretofore he had been a frequent viſitor, in conſequence of ſome diſcoveries made through the miniſtry of a certain Italian female, who, like *Janus*, appeared with a double face.

SIGNORA G. had herſelf entertained a *penchant* for Mr. HACKMAN, and, from the frequent preſents ſhe received from him, was flattered into a belief that their inclinations were mutual; but when ſhe found all the indirect *overtures* ſhe had made to him were unobſerved or ſlighted, and when a treaty of marriage was actually on foot between Mr. HACKMAN and Miſs RAY, her rage and reſentment broke forth, and, in an ebullition of choler and revenge, ſhe revealed all the ſecrets ſhe had

had been entruſtedwith to Lord S——. The conſequence of this diſcovery was, a ſevere remonſtrance to Miſs RAY upon her conduct, and a perſpective, and ſtrongly-coloured deſcription of what ſhe might expect from a matrimonial alliance with Mr. HACKMAN. The picture was ſo alarming and ſhocking, that ſhe reſolved, if poſſible, to ſurmount all the fond feelings ſhe had entertained for that unfortunate man. He had not heard from or ſeen her for ſeveral days, and on the morning of the ſhocking cataſtrophe he wrote a letter replete with the moſt tender effuſions of love and affection to Miſs RAY, addreſſing it to her through the mediation of Signora G——, and accompanying it with a hamper of curious Madeira, which he had received from a friend juſt returned from Jamaica.

SIGNORA

SIGNORA G. was particularly fond of Madeira wine, and did not return the hamper, either *opened* or *unopened*; but ſhe returned the letter, after peruſing it, reſealed, by the meſſenger who brought it. This circumſtance, which Mr. HACKMAN attributed to Miſs RAY's direction or inſtruction, irritated him to a pitch of phrenzy, which cauſed the ſhocking event at Covent Garden.

WE ſhall now quit this melancholy relation, and endeavour to make our Readers ſome amends for entering into ſo affecting a tranſaction, by introducing them more immediately to Signora G—, Mrs. P—PE, and Signora F—I, through whoſe agency Miſs RAY was firſt introduced to Lord S——.

SIGNORA G. has been an Opera and Oratorio ſinger for more than thirty years. She was a tall genteel woman, with fine black eyes, jetty locks, regular white teeth, and a complexion varied *ſelon la mode du jour*, by the aſſiſtance of Meſſ. WARREN and BAILEY, and their predeceſſors. She had been a woman of intrigue from the age of puberty, and has had as numerous a ſucceſſion of lovers as any ſalacious female in Europe—Lady H—— and the Cz—A not excepted.

AMONG the train of her admirers, many of whom ſhe has done the honour to ruin, was the unfortunate, in more ſenſes than one, little Jew MEND—Z. This extraordinary petit perſonage about thirty years ago figured away in high life; and conſidering he was ſcarce three feet high, was a paragon of fop-

pery:

pery: he would, had his powers of dreſs continued till this day, been pronounced the *greateſt, little* Maccaroni in Europe. He was moreover the profeſſed *Enamorato* of every fine woman pronounced a *Toaſt* upon the *Ton*. Amongſt the number of theſe, in particular, were the preſent Mrs. DONALDSON, then Miſs FALKNER, who at that time ſung at Marybone-Gardens; and Signora GALLI, then eſteemed a capital ſinger at the Opera.

MEND—Z was at this period a merchant of opulence, and eſteemed to be worth near a plumb; but his attachment to G— made him neglect his buſineſs, and ſhe led him one of the moſt whimſical dances that can be ſuggeſted,—almoſt all over Europe. He had previouſly declared his paſſion to her in London, and made her ſome

handſome preſents (and we find *experimentally* this Lady has a peculiar concupiſcence for preſents, as well as *Riding-Maſters*, let them come either from Jew or Gentile), which induced her to believe ſhe could turn the little Levite moſt religiouſly to the advantage of a female Chriſtian, who devoutly went to Maſs—to ogle for conqueſts.

She began her Tour by France—remained at Paris a few days. M—z was after her in the twinkling of an eye; but ſhe no ſooner heard of his being upon the road (and ſhe had her emiſſaries properly planted), than ſhe quitted that capital. She repaired to Lyons—he was there within four-and-twenty hours after her. *Preſto* was the word, and ſhe was gone. He purſued her to Venice, through part of Germany, and, to be brief, came up with

her

her at the Hague. Happy to find he had at length overtaken her, he took the ſpeedieſt means to be introduced to her.

He obtained an interview, when the ſequel was completely whimſical. We ſhall throw it into the form of a Dialogue, as we think it will convey the ſpirit and letter of both their meanings more forcibly.

Enter Mr. M—z, *making his three regular* obeiſances, *according to the Galilinean Syſtem.*

Signora G. Heavens! Mr. Men—z, what could have brought you here?

Mr. M. Oh! Madam, aſk me not that queſtion; it is the ſummit of cruelty.

SIGNORA G. For G—D's ſake, how could you gueſs I was here?

MR. M. Gueſs you was here, Madam!—Why I knew it to a certainty. I even know, minutely, every where you have been for theſe laſt three months—ever ſince you quitted England.

SIGNORA G. Why you really aſtoniſh me!—How is it poſſible you could have gained this intelligence?—If you had been a Miniſter of State, and planted ſpies upon me from ſtage to ſtage, I ſhould be inclined to doubt your veracity.

MR. M. I have then to aſſure you, that I have been in purſuit of you, from poſt to poſt, from the time you quitted London to this very hour.

SIGNORA G. You aſtoniſh me!—And pray, Mr. MEN—z, let me aſk you one more queſtion: What could induce you thus to purſue me all over the world?

MR. M. Why, Madam, I would purſue you not only through the univerſe, but if it were poſſible you could aſcend into any other planet, I would ſupplicate the Gods, as the only wiſh I had then left, to aid me in a flight to *Venus*; for there you muſt certainly congenially take up your abode.

SIGNORA G. You are truly romantic; but I ſhould beg you would be a little explicit—what is it you really mean?

MR. M. By heavens, Madam, every thing that is completely fond, and truly amorous!

SIGNORA G. Completely fond, and truly amorous! More aſtoniſhing than all the reſt!—In the name of common ſenſe, what would you really be at?

MR. M. What a queſtion! Fold you, my angel, in my arms, and breathe out the laſt ſighs of a doating lover upon that angelic, that—delectable boſom.

SIGNORA G. Ha! ha! ha!—Now you really make me laugh—it is impoſſible to reſiſt! But you certainly muſt be out of your ſenſes?

MR. M. Out of my ſenſes, Madam!—If I am, you have driven me out of them.

SIGNORA G. I am ſorry if that ſhould be the caſe;—but I think the beſt thing

I can do for you, is to write home to your friends, and adviſe them to ſend ſome of Dr. MONRO's people for you with a ſtreight waiſtcoat.

MR. M. Oh Madam, if you knew the pangs I this inſtant feel, you would treat me with ſome compaſſion at leaſt. [*Falling on his knees, and ſeizing her hand, which he almoſt devoured with kiſſes.*]

SIGNORA G. Good Heavens!—You really terrify me!—*Canine Madneſs* I proteſt! I was fearful you would have bit my little finger off.

MR. M. Oh no, Madam, I would not hurt the ſmalleſt particle belonging to you; but love, all-powerful love, will prevail.

SIGNORA G. Love! all-powerful love! My ſtars!—Why, Mr. MEND—z, only look in the glaſs, and conſult for one moment, if that pretty, little, dear, ſweet perſon, not ſo high as a walking-ſtick, with thoſe piercing eyes, and thoſe—enchanting rabbits teeth, can poſſibly inſpire the tender paſſion!

[M—z *much nettled at this expoſtulation.*]

MR. M. Why, Madam, let me tell you in a vulgar, but true proverb—— LITTLE DOGS HAVE LONG TAILS.

SIGNORA G. LONG TAILS—Oh ridiculous!—LONG TAILS!—Ha! ha! ha! Why, Mr. MEND——z, IF YOU WERE ALL TAIL, YOU WOULD NOT BE HALF LONG ENOUGH FOR ME.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXI.

Sequel of the Hiſtoriette of SIGNORA G—— *and Mr.* M——z. *Memoirs of Mrs.* P——PE. *Deſcription of her Perſon. Bill of Sale from her Huſband to Juſtice* H——. *Her uncommon Extravagance exemplified in a remarkable Anecdote. Her Introduction to Lord* S——, *and the Nature of the Amuſements of a certain Female Coterie.*

In Love, the Victors from the vanquiſh'd fly!
They fly who wound, and they purſue that die.

WE began the laſt Chapter with a poetical quotation, and we thought it inſpired our genius ſo much with rapturous flights, that we were induced to attempt the ſame experiment again.

We left poor M——z at the Hague in a moſt deplorable plight, ſupplicating a tyrannical Beauty to vouchſafe granting one ſmile for all his toil and trouble; but when we add, that the moſt powerful of all advocates—a Bank Note of the greateſt value (one thouſand pounds) was moſt reſpectfully preſented to her, the Reader will certainly be induced to believe, that the miniature lover was relieved from his diſtreſs of mind, and made completely happy.—No ſuch thing: ſhe pocketed the affront, if it could be called ſuch, and told Mr. M——z, half in jeſt and half in earneſt, that it was out of pure regard for him that ſhe would not indulge him; as ſhe was convinced that one ſingle night's gratification would diſſolve his little maſs into a mere jelly, and that there would be nothing left but the mere CA-

PUT MORTUUM of his extravagant paſſion and imaginary concupiſcence.

BUT we can ſay with the Fabuliſt, with regard to the boys and the frogs—this might be *ſport* to her, but it was *death* to him.

WE ſhall conclude this *farcical hiſtoriette* with only adding, that SIGNORA G—— circumciſed once more the little Jew in a moſt unchriſtian-like manner, not by robbing him of his *prepuce*, or even handling any of the appurtenances, but by literally flaying him alive, and leaving him no covering to his bones.

HAVING diſmiſſed SIGNORA G——, we ſhall pay our compliments to Mrs. P—PE, though perhaps, in point of ſeniority,

niority, SIGNORA G—LLI might claim the precedency.

THIS Lady married an Officer upon half-pay, who in reſpect to *beauty* might have diſputed the *pas* even with *Heidegger*. She was, perhaps, one of the handſomeſt women in England: her features were remarkably regular, and bore ſuch a happy ſymmetry, as would have induced Sir JOSHUA REYNOLDS twenty years ago, to have requeſted her as a model for a Venus de Medicis. To this add, her complexion was entirely her own; ſhe had no recourſe to fictitious auxiliaries to increaſe the luxuriant tint of her cheek, the pouting captivating lip, which concealed two rows of teeth that outvied ivory in whiteneſs. Her ſhape was delicate, her gait graceful, and ſhe moved a correct repreſentative of the Paphian Queen.

CONTINENCE,

CONTINENCE, however, was not among the number of her virtues; and tho' ſhe was remarkably fond of dogs, ſhe had no juſt claim to a kindred with Diana. Indeed the treatment ſhe met with from her huſband, added to his unengaging perſon, might plead a plauſible apology for her infidelity to the connubial bed. But when we add to this, that he entered into a regular bargain of ſale for his wife, no imputation ſeems to lie at her door for the frailties of which ſhe has been accuſed.

JUSTICE H——D made a purchaſe of her from her huſband for three hundred pounds, and ſhe was transferred to him in a *legal* or *illegal* manner (we will not pretend to ſay), at the *Shakeſpeare-Tavern*. Notwithſtanding the ill treatment ſhe had received from Mr. P—PE, ſhe was very unwilling to quit

him

him upon theſe terms, and ſhe weepingly ſaid, "Can you part with me "ſo eaſily?"

To which he replied, in the words of Lord LACE, in the Farce of The Lottery, "Part with you ſo eaſily!—I would "part with all your ſex for half the "ſum."

THUS ſeparated, ſhe nevertheleſs continued for almoſt a twelvemonth, a calendar year, conſtant to Juſtice H——D. In the courſe of this time, it muſt be allowed, that ſhe did not think three hundred pounds a ſufficient price for her charms, for more than ſix times that ſum were expended upon her during her connection with Mr. H——D. Indeed voluptuouſneſs and extravagance ſeemed to be her Motto; and amongſt other teſtimonies

teſtimonies in evidence of this opinion, an Anecdote is related, and we believe with truth, that walking one afternoon in a garden the latter end of April or beginning of May, ſhe ſpied one ſingle cherry upon a tree, and of which ſhe became ſo enraptured that ſhe told the Juſtice, ſhe ſhould die if ſhe had it not, intimating at the ſame time ſhe believed ſhe was pregnant. Mr. H——D, whoſe fondneſs for her was incredible, no ſooner received the intimation, than he called for the Gardener, and inquired what he would take for that cherry: the Gardener at firſt refuſed any terms; but at length (being informed that the Lady was with child, and in a longing condition) he conſented to let Mrs. P——PE have *the half-ripe ſingle Cherry for the moderate price of One Guinea.*

AFTER

AFTER ſhe quitted Mr. H——D, for reaſons that ſhe judged prudential—for really he could not afford to preſent her every inſtant with cherries *ripe* or *unripe* at the rate of a guinea each—ſhe had a variety of lovers, amongſt whom was Lord S—H, to whom we hear ſhe was introduced by Mrs. C——GE, who ſome time ſince kept an hotel in Suffolk-ſtreet; and whom we find had not only COURAGE ſufficient to engage occaſionally with a Firſt Lord of the Admiralty, but *tour à tour* with all the Officers of the Coldſtream, and even the whole Diplomatic Body

MRS. P—PE and Mrs. C—GE, with Signora G—I, compoſed a Coterie, where Miſs RAY occaſionally paid her viſits, and where a certain Naval Commiſſioner uſed frequently to aſſiſt at *private* Craſhes,

Craſhes, though he uſually made them pretty public, by beating the kettle drums at the rate of at leaſt three knots an hour.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXII.

Sketch of the Memoirs of SIGNORA FR—I. *Her Acquaintance with Lord* S——. *Her Affection for Captain* B——R. *The fatal Effects of her Generosity. Is at length immured for Debt. Finds* SIGNOR TEND—CI *in the same Predicament. Historiette of a whimsical Author. Her Beneficence to him. Imprisoned Jealousy. Preparations for a Duel, and a risible Event.*

WE should pay an ill compliment to Signora FR—SI, if we neglected her in this groupe. She was about twenty years since reckoned a fine black woman, much inclined to the *embon point*, and was by the judges of *salacious beauty* pronounced a *fine crummy piece*. She sung at the Opera, the Oratorios,

torios, and in private concerts, and was eſteemed a firſt-rate performer. She had an advantage over moſt Italian ſingers; ſhe pronounced the Engliſh with greater purity than any foreign ſinger we have heard. Indeed a vicious pronunciation, though ever ſo muſical, cannot with propriety be pronounced harmonious. This remark was juſtly made by a gentleman at the late entertainment under the title of *Carmen Seculare*, where the vocal performers were for the moſt part foreigners, and tortured the Engliſh language without mercy.

SIGNORA F—SI's muſical talent tended forcibly to recommend her to Lord S—H, who is a profeſſed *amateur*, as well as performer. F—I never laid any extraordinary claim to chaſtity, and the *douceurs* received from his Lordſhip were, beſides his good ſenſe and politeneſs,

politeneſs, ſome additional advocates in his behalf; ſo we find that a few months after their acquaintance, a fine chopping boy came into the world, to prove that his Lordſhip and F——si had amuſed themſelves with more than *ſemi-quavers*, and that his Lordſhip's *pipe* was at leaſt in one ſenſe as good as her's, and that it could trill two notes even beyond *G*. It certainly was lucky for his Lordſhip that his powers were ſo extenſive, or elſe the *Duet* would have been very diſſonant, and not had the leaſt effect. In plain Engliſh, F——i was ſo extremely plump, that it required a Lover of uncommon *parts* to afford her any gratification.

This ſon was provided for in the Navy; but we believe he is not now living, as we do not find his name in the liſt of Naval Officers.

Though

THOUGH FR——I yielded to the intreaties of Lord S——H, he was too much immerſed in buſineſs, to viſit her ſo often as ſhe was diſpoſed to perform the Paphian Rites: ſhe accordingly admitted the embraces of Captain B——R, who was a fine gentleman, and quite to the *Signora*'s *guſto*. As he had no other means of ſupport except his half-pay for himſelf and a numerous family, FR——I frequently transferred the compliments his Lordſhip made her to the Captain, and even her own privy purſe has often been laid under contributions in times of emergency; for the *Latitats*, knowing his connection, never ſpared him, when his taylor or his butcher found it difficult to obtain the payment of their bills. From this and ſimilar inſtances of uncommon generoſity, FR——I was conſtantly in diſtreſs, though

though ſhe got conſiderable ſums as a performer in various ſenſes. She at length made an acquaintance with a certain Bookſeller not far from *Ludgate-Hill*, who adminiſtered to her wants pretty profuſely; but ſtill her diſtreſs continued, and ſhe at length found herſelf immured in the *King's-Bench*. But even here ſhe paſſed her time very agreeably, as TENDU—I was then in the ſame predicament, and they were frequently viſited by the whole Opera Band, and had little Concerts in their own reſpective apartments.

IN this ſituation, ſhe made an acquaintance with an unfortunate Author, who, after playing at hide-and-ſeek for two years, was, according to the phraſeology of Bum-bailiffs, at length *nabbed*. For ſeveral months, he had invariably inverted the courſe of time, by literally turning

turning night into day. He uſually roſe about ſix o'clock in the evening, repaired to the Coffee-Houſe, where he had his breakfaſt under the denomination of afternoon tea. Having peruſed the papers, he made an excurſion till about twelve at night, when he repaired to *Jupp*'s, and had ſome chops or a ſteak, which ſerved him for dinner, alias ſupper: here he remained as long as the houſe was open, and drank two or three pints of beer. If the ſcene cloſed before his uſual time of going to bed, he viſited the *Brown-Bear*, or ſome other night-houſe, in order to complete the remainder of the evening. It was remarkable, that for near a twelvemonth a bailiff was conſtantly in poſſeſſion of a writ againſt him, and never could catch him, notwithſtanding they were ſo nearly neighbours, as to live in adjacent rooms upon the ſame floor:

but the Bard having changed his name, and from diſtreſs pretty well diſguiſed himſelf, it was difficult to recognize him when deſcribed in his former ſplendour; inſomuch that they often met upon the ſtairs together, and Mr. S—R and Mr. SM—TH paid each other compliments, in paſſing, of civility bordering upon friendſhip. Mr. S—R's indigence was ſo great, that his whole ſtock of linen conſiſted but of one ſhirt, or rather a ragged apology for a ſhirt, which reduced him to the neceſſity of being his own waſherwoman. At length, however, he wrote a production that he diſpoſed of for a conſiderable ſum, and his good fortune may be ſaid to have been his ruin. For now being properly rigged, and appearing in his uſual ſplendour, Mr. SM—TH having intimation of his haunts, ſoon traced him to the *Bedford Coffee-House*

Houſe; and here he met with a ſalute not quite ſo civil as he uſed to meet with upon the ſtairs at his old lodging, though by his appearance he ſeemed entitled to polite behaviour far more than before. The interview was whimſical, when SM—TH made the diſcovery that his old fellow-lodger was the perſon now in his cuſtody; and S——R was not a little aſtoniſhed, that after having been ſo long in his power, without the leaſt trouble, or purſuit he ſhould now, when, as it were, quite emancipated from his clutches, fall a prey to him.

F——I's generoſity prevailed upon this occaſion, and ſhe could not refrain giving S——R a general invitation to her table, which was, indeed, an incredible relief to him, as he had no other ſupport but his Groats to live upon for ſome months.

TENDU—I, who thought he was Lord Paramount of the *Gallic* demeſnes within the walls of the *King*'s-*Bench*, one afternoon intruded into the apartments of Signora F——I; and, notwithſtanding the *Fork* was ſtuck up, according to Priſon-Law, to denote that *Conjugal Duty*, with or without *licenſe*, was going forward, he broke into the bed-room, and ſurpriſed S—R in the arms of his Benefactreſs and Dulcinea. Such an inſult S——R immediately reſented, and called TEND—CI a *Raſcal*. This expreſſion nettled the *Demi-Eunuch* more than any other phraſe S——R could have uttered; and he appealed to FR—I, if he was a *Raſcal*; to which ſhe jocularly replied—"No, no, you ſing like an "angel both a-bed and up." This reſponſe, did not, however, ſatisfy him,

and

and he inſiſted upon ſatisfaction. S——R agreed to give it him, and a pair of loaded piſtols were produced by TEN—CI. FR—I, thinking matters were now becoming too ſerious, and being very unwilling to loſe either of her lovers, as they had both their *agrémens* in their *way*, ſhe called to her aid all her *rhetoric* to diſſuade them from the raſh deed they were going to perpetrate; but all in vain: they were both reſolutely bent on revenge. Accordingly, TENDU—I, who was of the Romiſh perſuaſion, retired to his apartment to ſay a few *Ave-Marias*, in order to greaſe his boots for the journey he was likely to take; and Mr. S——R, who was a man of conſiderable property, notwithſtanding he was in *durance vile*, and waiting for an Act of Inſolvency

to

to ſet him free, retired to make his will, in favour of a natural child, then in the *Foundling-Hoſpital*. Let it be remarked, however, that his bequeſts conſiſted of ſome very valuable manuſcripts, which he had written during his confinement.

Upon the champions retiring, and leaving the piſtols upon Fra—i's table, her ready imagination ſoon pointed out to her, that the only means to prevent the effuſion of blood, would be to extract the charges of the two piſtols, which ſhe did, before the return of the combatants; ſhe, however, left the priming, as no harm could from thence enſue.

Upon T—ci and S—r's return, they eagerly ſeized the piſtols, and went out

out to decide the *affair*, F——I accompanying them to ſee fair-play. They both ſnapped, but neither piſtol went off; upon which ſhe burſt into a loud laugh, ſaying, "I ſee you are both in the ſame "ſituation, notwithſtanding all your boaſt-"ing—MERE FLASHES IN the PAN."

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

BRITISH MUSEUM